

1986

1986 Annual Report Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

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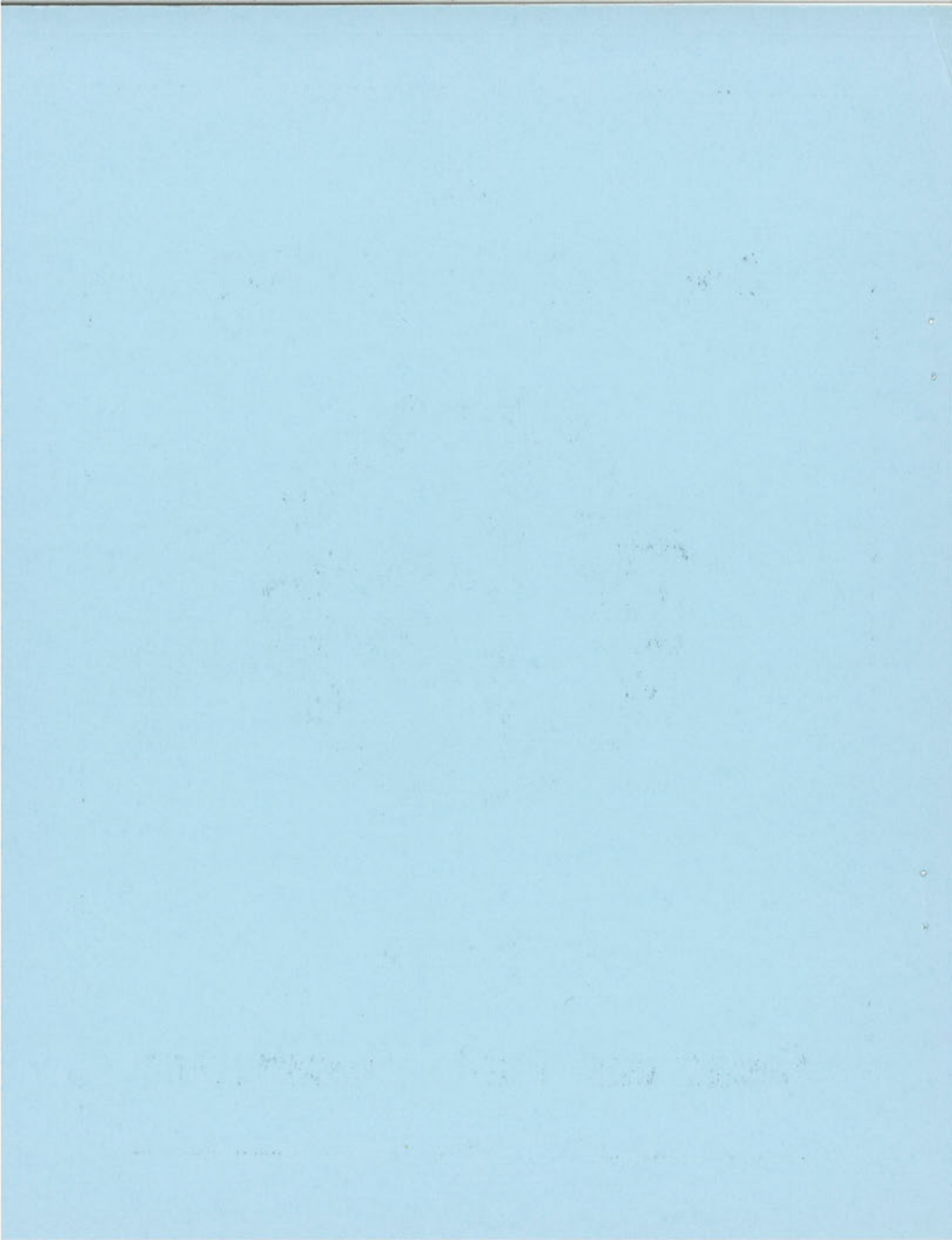
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1986
ANNUAL REPORT



Nebraska
Game and Parks Commission



PURPOSE

Husbandry of state's wildlife, park and outdoor recreation resources in the best long-term interest of the people.

- GOAL 1: To plan for and implement all policies and programs in an efficient and objective manner.
- GOAL 2: To maintain a rich and diverse environment in the lands and waters of Nebraska.
- GOAL 3: To provide outdoor recreation opportunities.
- GOAL 4: To manage wildlife resources for maximum benefit of the people.
- GOAL 5: To cultivate man's appreciation of this role in the world of nature.

Eugene T. Mahoney was appointed to a six-year term as director of the Game and Parks Commission, effective July 22, 1976. He was appointed to his second term which began April 22, 1982.



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NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

District I	Bruce Wright, Lincoln
District II	Richard Coyne, Omaha
District III	Dr. Tim Biga, Norfolk
District IV	Wayne Ziebarth, Wilcox
District V	LaVern Schneider, McCook
District VI	Neal Keller, Brewster
District VII	Stan Juelfs, Kimball

DIRECTOR

Eugene T. Mahoney

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

W. Rex Amack
William J. Bailey, Jr.
Dale R. Bree

DIVISION CHIEFS

Administration	Larry Morris
Budget and Fiscal	Lyle D. (Jack) Hanna
Engineering	James Sheffield
Fisheries	
January - July	Robert Thomas
August - December	Wes Sheets
Information and Education	James MacAllister
Law Enforcement	Don Schaepler
Operations and Construction	Earl Johnson
Outdoor Education	Paul Horton
Parks	
Historical Parks	Ted Stutheit
Recreation Areas	Jim Carney
State Parks	Chuck Duncan
Planning and Programming	Delvin M. Whiteley
Resource Services	Harold K. Edwards
Wildlife	Ken Johnson

ADMINISTRATION

Administration provides support services for the various organizational units within the Commission through the following offices and functions: (1) Personnel, (2) Purchasing and Inventory, (3) Internal Audit, (4) In-service Training, (5) Aircraft Operations, (6) Word Processing, (7) Maintenance and the telephone switchboard of the central office buildings, and (8) staff assistants and secretarial and clerical personnel in the district offices. Assistance is also provided to the Director's office.

Personnel

Functions of Personnel include administration of payroll, worker's compensation, retirement, insurance, accident reports, performance evaluations, personnel records and preparation of personal services portion of the agency's operational budget.

The agency hired 5 new permanent employees in 1986 (all of these individuals were former temporary employees) and seven employees were promoted to higher positions. Total turnover for 1986 was 5.7% (ten professional employees and 13 non-professional employees).

Classification reviews by the State Department of Personnel resulted in four position reclassifications.

Numerous letters on employment possibilities and career information were received and answered. Personnel also interviewed and tested many applicants throughout the year. Replies were given to personnel surveys regarding salaries, benefits, personnel turnover, and affirmative action statistics.

Personnel conferred with the Office of Risk Management on several worker's compensation cases. Worker's Compensation claims paid for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1986 totalled \$17,119.56.

Game and Parks Commission employees were involved in 20 motor vehicle accidents.

PAYROLLS: Permanent - Total gross wages paid: \$8,294,145.19
Average number of employees per month: 401

Temporary - Total gross wages paid: \$2,071,628.81
Average number employees per payroll: 300
Largest payroll: 638
Smallest payroll: 69

In-Service Training

In-Service training is devoted to bettering present performance and to preparing employees for positions of high responsibility. To achieve this purpose, training efforts are directed primarily to meeting specialized needs of individual staff members who enroll in a variety of short courses, seminars

and workshops. Broad-based training needs are met through in-house workshops for groups of employees.

During the year, employees were enrolled in workshops, short courses and specialized college-level course work through the tuition assistance program. Examples of training include safety, animal ecology, economics, parasitology, biostatistics, horticulture, experimental design, entomology, computer science and a clerical seminar.

Aircraft Operations

The Piper Super Cub was flown a total of 122.01 hours during 1986. These hours consisted of 122.01 hours daytime flying.

There were 41 flights scheduled of which 4 were cancelled.

The cost of operation this year was \$23.50 per hour. This does not include insurance or hangar costs. Depreciation on the aircraft is unknown.

The airplane was used for various surveys, counts, antelope depredation complaints, and fish and game law enforcement.

Purchasing and Inventory

1. An aggressive program in inventory record keeping including up-to-date records on current purchases and undertaking of computerization of all purchases of equipment prior to July, 1976.
2. Control and records of service contracts with emphasis on monetary savings.
3. Streamlining of purchases of materials and supplies of value under \$300 to expedite field needs and reduce paper work.
4. Purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel in the Lincoln area. Instituted purchase of gasoline for the Lincoln bulk tank at trailer price, which is cheaper, rather than tank wagon price.
5. Increase in use of contracts developed by the Department of Administrative Services resulting in a monetary savings for purchase of those items under contract.
6. Increased emphasis on disposal of surplus property.
7. Worked toward better utilization of vehicles permanently leased from the Transportation Services Bureau.
8. Increased utilization of office supplies from Department of Administrative Services Central Stores.

BUDGET AND FISCAL DIVISION

The Budget and Fiscal Division includes four sections (1) Permits, which encompasses the fiscal administration of issuing boating certificates, operating of the Customer Service Center in the Lincoln Headquarters Building, Accounts Receivable, and Permits Accounting Departments; (2) Fiscal Accounting, which prepares all voucher payments for the agency and maintains various files and reports connected with the fiscal accounting of all expenditures for the agency; (3) Audits and Cost Center Accounting, which encompasses audits of all political subdivisions and maintenance of Area Cost Center Expenditure Accounting; (4) Budget Section includes preparation and daily maintenance of the agency's budget and financial resources, including investment of funds.

Administration of all functions and duties of the division is performed by the Division Chief and his administrative staff.

Major functions of the Budget and Fiscal Division include: (1) maintaining all fiscal records in accordance with state and federal laws; (2) maintaining area cost accounting on income and expenditures for internal control of the Commission; (3) administering fiscal operation and control of federal programs; (4) administering the fiscal control of issuing State Boating Certificates; (5) issuing all hunting and fishing permits to vendor accounts; (6) receiving, depositing, and maintaining accounts receivable records on all funds received by the Commission; (7) preparing the Commission's annual budgets; (8) preparing and maintaining the Commission's fiscal and operating budgets; (9) performing audits of federal programs relating to participating subdivisions; (10) administering an internal program of forms control, including development of forms and defining their purpose, use and retention, and (11) performing other administrative functions as assigned by the Board of Commissioners, Director and/or Assistant Directors.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 1985, Cash and General Fund Appropriation on hand:

Game Cash (Fund 2332)		5,395,770.47
State Park Cash (Fund 2333)		1,969,223.86
Nebraska Habitat Cash (Fund 2334)		1,104,335.61
Nongame and Endangered Species Cash (Fund 2335)		110,670.90
Niobrara State Park Special Cash (Fund 2336)		994,672.85
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash (Fund 2337)		38,673.76
NORDA Cash (Fund 2338)		1,231,916.43
Federal Fund 4332; includes Lands and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating and Historical Grants		120,021.47
General Fund (Fund 1000)	3,386,572.69	
Less amount lapsed	<u>21,432.04</u>	3,365,140.65
Capital Construction (Fund 3000)		755,756.69

Total Cash and General Fund Appropriations on hand December 31, 1985 15,086,182.69

Cash Revenue and Appropriations Received During 1986

Game Cash		9,177,208.45
Park Cash		4,042,387.73
Nebraska Habitat Cash		1,423,691.41
Nongame and Endangered Species Cash		99,491.36
Niobrara State Park Special Cash		55,523.78
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash		8,061.42
NORDA Cash		1,729,830.64
Federal Fund 4332; includes Lands and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating, Historical Grants		1,386,395.55
General Funds		6,181,921.00
Capital Construction Funds	225,000.00	
Less Special Session Reduction	<u>175,000.00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>

Total Cash and General Fund Appropriations Received During 1986 24,154,511.34

Total Expended by Fund Type:

Game Cash (Fund 2332)	7,839,353.32
State Park Cash (Fund 2333)	4,128,422.68
Nebraska Habitat Cash (fund 2334)	1,220,399.27
Nongame and Endangered Species Cash (Fund 2335)	21,019.92
Niobrara State Park Special Cash (Fund 2336)	461,292.88
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash (Fund 2337)	12,696.35
NORDA Cash (Fund 2338)	806,760.56
Federal Fund 4332, includes Lands and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating, Historical Grants	1,444,682.57
General Funds	6,095,934.53
Capital Construction Funds	<u>331,220.26</u>

Total Expenditure During 1986

22,361,782.34

December 31, 1986 Cash and General Fund Appropriation on hand:

Game Cash (Fund 2332)	6,733,625.60
Park Cash (fund 2333)	1,883,188.91
Nebraska Habitat Cash (Fund 2334)	1,307,627.75
Nongame and Endangered Species Cash (Fund 2335)	189,142.34
Niobrara State Park Special Cash (Fund 2336)	588,903.75
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash Fund (Fund 2337)	34,038.83
NORDA Cash (Fund 2338)	2,154,986.51
Federal Fund 4332, includes Land and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating, and Historical Grants	61,734.45
General Funds (1000)	3,451,127.12
Capital Construction (Fund 3000)	<u>474,536.43</u>

Total Cash and General Fund Appropriations on hand December 31, 1986

16,878,911.69

STATE GAME FUND INCOME

Hunting Activities		3,352,670.07
Fishing Activities		2,662,546.14
Federal Reimbursement		1,626,349.94
NEBRASKAland Magazine		..
Subscriptions	578,567.20	
Advertising	<u>22,536.51</u>	601,103.71
Calendars, books, slides, etc.		100,252.98
Sale of Surplus Property		92,597.11
Land Lease and Crop Income		123,818.96
Boating Permits		303,465.97
Incidentals		25,686.30
Liquidated and Property Damage		26,450.75
Interest Earned - Investment		381,433.82
Cash Gifts		2,927.20
Fund Transfers - Workman Comp. Claims & Misc.		<u>(122,094.50)</u>
Total Game Cash Fund Income		9,177,208.45

STATE PARK CASH FUND INCOME

Park Entry Permits	2,104,923.00
Ice Fishing Shelters	40.00
Property Damage	905.10
Interest Earned - Investment	131,780.18
Camping Fees, Cabin Lots, etc.	554,648.27
Rent of Cabins	534,068.45
Concession Leases and Sales by Lessee	64,469.09
Swimming Pool Admission	44,608.68
Entrance Admission - Arbor Lodge	24,392.06
Rent of Recreation Equipment - Horses, Boats, etc.	173,446.45
Concession Sales, Leases and Agency facilities	106,460.46
Cafe - Fort Robinson	145,740.65
Cookouts - Chadron	3,392.30
Cafe - Platte River	167,011.46
Cash Gifts	59.34
Sale of Surplus Property	4,812.51
Federal Reimbursements	4,142.01
Fund Transfers - Workman Comp. Claims & Misc.	<u>(22,512.28)</u>
Total Park Cash Fund Income	4,042,387.73

STATE PARK CASH FUND INCOME- by Areas

Alexandria	1,729.06	
Arbor Lodge	26,487.88	
Ash Hollow	2,252.84	
Blue Stem	45.00	
Box Butte	1,230.00	
Branched Oak	66,593.43	
Brownville	200.00	
Buffalo Bill Ranch	11,700.51	
Chadron	101,878.07	
Champion Mill	541.45	
Dead Timber	5,337.13	
Enders	1,163.25	
Fort Atkinson	2,765.85	
Fort Hartsuff	2,099.12	
Fort Kearny SHP	6,130.32	
Fort Kearney Recreation Area	30,426.72	
Fort Robinson	522,527.04	
Fremont	38,909.52	
Indian Cave	39,058.71	
Johnson Lake	49,110.39	
Keller	1,479.21	
Lake McConaughy	94,307.05	
Lake Minatare	2,062.56	
Lewis and Clark	3,538.07	
Louisville	55,579.54	
Maloney	507.19	
Medicine Creek	9,188.78	
Memphis	314.14	
Merritt Reservoir	6,094.83	
Morman Island	25,981.61	
Niobrara	40,384.66	
Pawnee	23,454.63	
Platte River	402,017.57	
Ponca	85,170.88	
Red Willow	5,177.06	
Rock Creek Station	4,934.56	
Schramm	125.00	
Sherman Reservoir	7,284.96	
Swanson	8,033.63	
Two Rivers	95,829.60	
Victoria Springs	12,717.50	
Willow Creek	3,260.68	
Windmill	21,186.90	
Miscellaneous Areas	88.00	
Subtotal by Areas		1,818,904.90
Federal Reimbursements	4,142.01	
Park Entry Permits	2,104,923.00	
Donations	59.34	
Other Non-Area Income, Interest,		
Fund Transfers to Workman Comp, Etc.	114,358.48	2,223,482.83
Total State Park Cash Fund Income		4,042,387.73

SPECIAL CASH FUNDS

NEBRASKA HABITAT CASH FUND

Habitat Stamps	1,070,707.50	
Interest Earned - Investments	70,115.18	
Federal Reimbursements	267,834.23	
Incidentals	564.44	
Cash Gifts	1,636.92	
Crop/Pasture	5,102.09	
Sale of Surplus Property	7,821.05	
Fund Transfers - Workman's Comp Claim & Misc.	<u>(90.00)</u>	1,423,691.41

NONGAME AND ENDANGERED SPECIES CASH

Cash Gifts	1,177.50	
Federal Reimbursements	1,912.70	
Interest	10,369.09	
Nongame donations	<u>86,032.07</u>	99,491.36

NIOBRARA STATE PARK SPECIAL CASH FUND

Interest Earned - Investments		55,523.78
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NEBRASKA SNOWMOBILE CASH FUND

75% of fee, less issuing fee	5,676.06	
Interest Earned - Investments	<u>2,385.36</u>	8,061.42

NORDA CASH FUND

One Cent Tax on Cigarettes	1,567,391.88	
Interest Earned - Investments	104,579.42	
Federal Reimbursement	54,679.21	
Incidentals	<u>3,180.13</u>	1,729,830.64

FEDERAL FUNDS

Land and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation, Historical Grants, and Boating		<u>1,386,395.55</u>
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Total Cash and Federal Income Received During 1986		17,922,590.34
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1986 EXPENDITURES

PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE - OPERATIONAL COSTS

Program: 330, Habitat Development

Habitat Cash	1,141,292.85	1,141,292.85
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1986 EXPENDITURES
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE _ OPERATIONAL COSTS

Program: 336, Wildlife Conservation,
Enforcement, Promotion and Development

Subprogram 01, Enforcement

General Fund	358,410.78	
Game Cash	1,622,640.86	
Park Cash	<u>174,204.91</u>	2,155,256.55

Subprogram 02, Information and Education

General Fund	77,454.09	
Game Cash	1,196,793.82	
Park Cash	<u>276,827.25</u>	1,551,075.16

Subprogram 04, Game

General Fund	171,729.83	
Game Cash	854,113.14	
Nongame Cash	<u>21,019.92</u>	1,046,862.89

Subprogram 05, Fish

General Fund	176,741.12	
Game Cash	1,679,677.47	
Federal	<u>41,148.64</u>	1,897,567.23

Subprogram 06, Resource Services

Game Cash	<u>1,150,755.69</u>	1,150,755.69
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Subprogram 10, Outdoor Recreation

Game Cash	<u>248,997.76</u>	248,997.76
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PROGRAM: 336, SUMMARY

General Fund	784,335.82	
Game Cash	6,752,978.74	
Park Cash	451,032.16	
Nongame Cash	21,019.92	
Federal	<u>41,148.64</u>	8,050,515.28

PROGRAM: 337, AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

General Fund	509,378.59	
Game Cash	887,291.04	
Park Cash	319,745.17	
Habitat Cash	<u>60,452.98</u>	1,776,867.78

1986 EXPENDITURES

PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE - OPERATIONAL COSTS

PROGRAM: 549, PARK ADMINISTRATION

General Fund	2,777,110.36	
Park Cash	2,590,091.48	
NORDA Cash	<u>471,780.72</u>	5,838,982.56

PROGRAM: 550, FEDERAL AID AND PLANNING

General Fund	233,107.27	
Game Cash Fund	<u>78,918.14</u>	312,025.41

PROGRAM: 617, ENGINEERING, AREA MAINTENANCE AND SNOWMOBILE

General Fund	1,792,002.49	
Game Cash	26,245.00	
Park Cash	715,267.10	
NORDA Cash	198,729.85	
Snowmobile Cash	<u>12,696.35</u>	2,744,940.79

PROGRAM: 628, Credit Card Discount

Game Cash	592.51	
Park Cash	3,144.84	
Habitat	<u>1.88</u>	3,739.23

TOTAL EXPENDITURES, OPERATIONAL COSTS

19,868,363.90

Area of Expenditure	1986 CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT							TOTAL
	3000 Capital Cash Fund	2332 Game Cash	2333 Park Cash	2334 Hab. Cash	2336 Special Niobrara	2338 Norda Cash	4000 Federal Funds	
Acq. Habitat Land				6,765.27				6,765.27
<u>Improvements and Renovation</u>								
Wildl. Mgmt. A.(Gen)		2,601.05						2,601.05
Arcadia		806.00						806.00
Big Alkali		7,905.00						7,905.00
Buffalo Creek		2,820.00						2,820.00
Elwood		14,314.15					42,942.44	57,256.59
Osage		3,508.60						3,508.60
Sacramento		5,950.52						5,950.52
Schilling		6,667.18						6,667.18
Sinn		3,388.13						3,388.13
Bluehill				204.49				204.49
Bluewing				387.75				387.75
Bohemia				335.82				335.82
Greenvale				335.82				335.82
Sandpiper				456.50				456.50
Spikerush				1,743.41				1,743.41
North Lake				1,743.40				1,743.40
Peterson				6,679.10				6,679.10
Fort Robinson		4,180.00						4,180.00
Eugene T. Mahoney						8,742.04	211,101.52	219,843.56
Niobrara	21,980.37				461,292.88		84,074.45	567,347.70
Indian Cave			5,935.71					5,935.71
Fort Atkinson	14,915.50		1,834.42			2,902.72		19,652.64
Fort Hartsuff						1,099.90		1,099.90
Rock Creek Station			4,523.24			400.00	3,686.92	8,610.16
Rec. Areas Gen.			19,056.73			50,716.11		69,772.84
Bowring			3,401.70			42,185.99		45,587.69
Box Butte			3,363.04					3,363.04
Brownville						512.98		512.98
Branched Oak		3,315.80						3,315.80
Calamus	191,955.74	875.04					504,810.82	697,641.60
Enders						22,670.15		22,670.15
Fort Kearney Rec.						5,643.53	5,643.54	11,287.07
Keller		89.90					84,029.43	84,119.33
Lake Minatare			2,227.90			522.72		2,750.62
Pawnee						412.93		412.93
Two Rivers			7,149.19					7,149.19
Oake Valley		1,082.91						1,082.91
Medicine Creek		6,441.35						6,441.35
Weiseman		450.00						450.00
Atkinson Dam	12,434.58					440.92		12,875.50
Central Office	24,228.16		1,650.00				22,313.60	48,191.76
District III		3,526.92						3,526.92
North Platte Hatchery		1,699.82						1,699.82
Rock Creek Hatchery		6,245.23						6,245.23
Lake Winters Creek		17,460.29						17,460.29
Subtotal-Agency Proj.	265,514.35	93,327.89	49,141.93	18,651.56	461,292.88	136,249.99	958,602.72	1,982,781.32
Pol. Subdivision	65,705.91						444,931.21	510,637.12
TOTAL	331,220.26	93,327.89	49,141.93	18,651.56	461,292.88	136,249.99	1,403,533.93	2,493,418.44

ENGINEERING

The Engineering Division is an "in-house" Architectural and Engineering service that provides professional, technical services to Agency Client Divisions, at their request for any and all proposed Capital Construction and improvement projects on Game and Parks Commission areas throughout the State.

The Division functions similar to an independent, private, professional consulting firm. The staff consists of professional Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Inspectors and support staff that provide all services usually and customarily associated with those professions.

Typical activities include, but are not limited to: preparation of feasibility studies, preliminary designs, cost estimates, construction plans and specifications, and contract administration of all projects under construction. Related activities include legal land and topographic surveys, field inspections, preparation of formal presentation drawings, model buildings and miscellaneous drafting services.

The Engineering Division also acts as the Game and Parks Commission's representative when contracting the services of outside consultants for professional expertise, as required by the Commission. As a service to local municipalities, projects funded by the Heritage Conservation Recreation Service through the Game and Parks Commission Planning and Programming Division are reviewed by the Engineering Division for compliance with local and state codes and statutory regulations for funding authority.

A brief summary of 1986 projects in which the Engineering Division was involved, listed by area, and divided into in-house, consultant and LB 309 building renewal categories, includes:

BOWRING RANCHING STATE HISTORICAL PARK: A plan and specifications were completed for the installation of 800 rods of fence on the area. A contract was awarded and installation of the fence will be completed in the spring of 1987.

BOX BUTTE STATE RECREATION AREA: The local power company was contacted and arrangements made for installation of two security lights for an area boat ramp.

BRANCHED OAK STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Reconstruction of an erosion control dam was completed.

BRANCHED OAK STATE RECREATION AREA: Re-evaluation of campground electrical loads was completed and a report submitted.

BROWNVILLE STATE RECREATION AREA: Plans and specifications were completed for replacement of the boat ramp, docks and erosion control. A contract was awarded and construction will be completed in 1987.

CALAMUS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA: A survey of the county line for the area was completed. Plans and specifications were completed and contracts awarded for construction of 12 handicap vault toilets, a secondary electrical project, a shower/latrine building, a water distribution system, a maintenance building, and a sanitary trailer dump station. Construction of a sanitary dump station has been completed, all other projects will be completed in the 1987 construction season.

CENTRAL OFFICE BUILDING: A design was developed for renovation of the central office building mailroom and submitted to the Client Division.

ELWOOD RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA: Plan and specifications for a boat ramp access road and light for the area were developed, and construction of the boat ramp, access road and installation of the light were completed.

ENDERS RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA: Plan and specifications for proposed improvements to the existing boat ramp for the center dam area and for construction of a fish cleaning station and light were developed. Bids were received, the contract awarded and construction of the project completed.

EUGENE T. MAHONEY STATE PARK: Planning and development of the new Eugene T. Mahoney State Park commenced in 1986 with the following projects: two shower latrine buildings, maintenance building, superintendent's residence, park office building, electrical and water distribution systems. Construction of several of these projects commenced during the 1986 construction season and will be completed during 1987.

FAIRGROUNDS AQUARIUM: A report and cost estimate were completed for a stream section to be constructed at the state fairgrounds display.

FORT ATKINSON STATE HISTORICAL PARK: A scale model of the Fort as it stood from 1820 to 1827 was constructed for display at the Fort Atkinson Visitor Center.

FORT KEARNY STATE RECREATION AREA: Plans and specifications were developed for revision of electrical service to a picnic shelter and construction of a storage structure. A contract was awarded and construction completed.

FORT ROBINSON STATE PARK: Repairs to the swimming pool electrical system were completed.

FREMONT STATE RECREATION AREA: Plans and specifications were developed and bathroom repairs were completed by the Operations and Construction Division.

INDIAN CAVE STATE PARK: Improvements to the electrical service, and two wells and hand pumps were completed.

KELLER PARK STATE RECREATION AREA: A new camping area was completed, including pressure water system, electrical distribution with camper power outlets, vault toilets, sanitary trailer dumping station and a picnic shelter.

LAKE MINATARE STATE RECREATION AREA: Plans and Specifications were prepared for fish cleaning stations, campground electrical improvements and parking lot. Construction to be completed in the 1987 construction season.

LAKE WINTERS CREEK: Plans and specifications were developed for a rotary fish screen, bids received and construction completed at the inlet canal of the lake.

MEDICINE CREEK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Plans were developed and bids received for replacement of fencing, and project completed.

MERRITT RESERVOIR STATE RECREATION AREA: Bids were received and installation of a well and handpump completed.

NIOBRARA STATE PARK: Development of the new park began with the following projects: construction of shelters, cabins, campground, shower/latrine building, vault toilets, electrical and water systems, and a trailer dump station. Work began on several of these projects in 1986 and will continue into the 1987 construction season.

NORTH LOUP WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: An existing well was replaced.

OMAHA OFFICE: A design was completed for remodeling the Omaha Office. Work to be completed by Operations Division.

PAWNEE STATE RECREATION AREA: Re-evaluation of campground electrical loads was completed and a report submitted.

PINE RIDGE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Bids were received and a contract awarded for thinning of trees in the area. Work to be completed in 1987.

PONCA STATE PARK: Swimming pool repairs and a survey of the boat launch were completed.

PONDEROSA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Emergency well repairs were made and reroofing of the residence and shop were bid with work to be completed in 1987.

ROCK CREEK HATCHERY: Area bridges were evaluated for loads and a report submitted.

ROCK CREEK STATION STATE RECREATION AREA: Bids were received for construction of three picnic shelters, contract awarded and work completed.

SACRAMENTO-WILCOX WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Residences were painted, storm windows installed at the shop, a replacement wildlife watering well and a natural gas pipeline installed. Plans and specifications were developed for wetland improvements to be completed in 1987.

SCHRAMM PARK STATE RECREATION AREA: Emergency sewer repairs for the assistant superintendent's residence were completed, and inspection and report on the floor for the same residence completed and report submitted.

JACK SINN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Plans and specifications were developed and bids received for construction of four nesting islands, actual construction has been delayed until 1987, because of wet weather.

SUMMIT LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA: Plans and a cost estimate were completed for a proposed boat ramp, parking lot and fish cleaning station.

SWANSON STATE RECREATION AREA: Installation of new residence siding was completed.

VICTORIA SPRINGS STATE RECREATION AREA: An inspection of electrical hookups for a campground was performed and a report submitted.

WALGREN LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA: Plans and Specifications were developed, bids received and contract awarded for construction of a boat ramp and parking lot. Actual construction was delayed until 1987.

Following is a list of projects for which consultants were employed.

ATKINSON LAKE STATE RECREATION AREA: A consultant was hired to develop preliminary plans and specifications for reconstruction of the dam at Atkinson Lake. Construction phase of the project has been delayed until funding is available.

CENTRAL OFFICE BUILDING - LINCOLN: Plans and Specifications were developed by a consultant for roof replacement on Buildings "A" and "B", bids were received and the project awarded in 1985. The project was completed in 1986.

EUGENE T. MAHONEY STATE PARK: Consultants were hired to research and develop an electrical source for the park, and to investigate and submit a feasibility report on reconstruction of the earth dam at the park.

ROCK CREEK HATCHERY: Revisions to the aeration pumps were designed and bid by consultant. Work will be completed in 1987.

The following is a list of projects funded by LB309:

FORT KEARNY STATE HISTORICAL PARK: Reroofing of the Visitor Center was completed.

FORT ROBINSON STATE PARK: Repair of five adobe duplexes continues. The activity building foundation moisture repairs and grading around barns was completed. Plans and specifications were developed for reroofing two barns (construction to be completed in 1987).

LAKE McCONAUGHY STATE RECREATION AREA: Repairs were made at the Martin Bay Latrines, Phase II. Materials were furnished by LB309 and labor performed by Operations and Construction Division.

LEWIS & CLARK STATE RECREATION AREA: The shower/latrine building and latrine building were renovated.

LINCOLN OFFICE BUILDING "B": Reroofing was completed. The project was partially funded by LB309.

PONCA STATE PARK: Plumbing repairs were completed for Superintendent's Residence.

WAR AXE STATE RECREATION AREA: Septic system repairs completed.

FISHERIES

Fisheries Division is responsible for maintenance, development and regulations on use of renewable fisheries resources through its five sections: administration, management, production, research, and the aquarium center.

The administration section plans, organizes, directs, and controls approved programs, policies and operational procedures of the Division. Special permits issued during 1986 include: Missouri River commercial fishing -- 149; bait vendors -- 327; non-resident fish dealers -- 6; commercial put & take -- 2; private fish culturist -- 26.

Fish Population Surveys

Fish population surveys on lakes and streams were conducted on many waters across the state during 1986. The surveys provide a factual basis for decisions about regulation effects, stocking programs, habitat suitability, development needs and harvest levels.

District I

Sheridan County -- Smith Lake, Walgren Lake; Scotts Bluff County -- Cochran Lake, Lake Minatare, Lake Winters Creek, Nine Mile Creek; Sioux County -- University Lake, Carter P. Johnson Lake, Monroe Creek; Kimball County -- Oliver Reservoir; Dawes County -- Chadron State Park Pond, Box Butte Reservoir, North and South Chadron Reservoirs, Chadron Creek; Banner County -- Buffalo Creek Pond; Garden County -- Oshkosh Sportsman Club Pond; Deuel County -- Chappel Interstate Lake; Keith County -- Otter Creek, Lonergan Creek; Morrill County -- Red Willow Creek; Special Project -- four Sandhill lakes stocked with yellow perch and northern pike in 1984, fish sampled in 1986 and data recorded; Sampling done at Stuckenhole Creek, Tub Springs, Mitchell Drain, Wildhorse Creek, Spottedtail Creek, Winters Creek, Red Willow Creek.

District II

Loup County -- Calamus River, Calamus Reservoir; Cherry County -- Merritt Reservoir, Cottonwood Lake; Boyd County -- Hull Lake; Custer County -- Melham Lake, Victoria Springs Lake, Victoria Springs Creek; Keya Paha County -- Cub Creek Reservoir; Brown County -- Calamus River, Long Pine creek; Special projects -- Merritt Reservoir, Long Pine Creek, Victoria Springs Lake, Keller Park Ponds, Snake River Flows, Melham Lake.

District III

Pierce County -- Willow Creek Reservoir, Pierce City Lake, Plainview Country Club Lake; Madison County -- Skyview Lake; Holt County -- Goose Lake, Louse Creek, Steele Creek; Cedar County -- Cottonwood Lake, Antelope Creek; Wheeler County -- Pibel Lake; Stanton County -- Pilger Dam; Butler County -- Columbus City Lake; Dodge County -- Fremont Lakes; Antelope County -- East Branch Verdigre Creek; Knox County -- Steele Creek.

District IV

Keith County -- Lake Ogallala, Otter Creek; Lincoln County -- I-80 Maxwell Interchange Lake; Hayes County -- Hayes Center Lake; Chase County -- Enders Reservoir; Sherman County -- Sherman Reservoir; Harlan County -- Harlan Reservoir.

District V

Pawnee County -- Burchard Lake, Pawnee Prairie Ponds 3, 6, 7, 8, 10; Iron Horse Trail; Lancaster County -- Wagon Train Lake, Cottontail Lake; Gage County -- Clatonia 3A, 3 farm ponds, Hall County -- Alda Lake; Mormon Island; Saline County -- Walnut Creek 3A; Webster County -- Elm Creek; Douglas County -- Papio Lake D4, Carter Lake.

Renovations

During 1986 the Fisheries Division completed renovation of 3 public owned waters and several farm ponds across the state.

Habitat Improvement

Habitat improvement was done at 15 lakes and streams across the state. This included working with interested groups to place discarded Christmas trees, cedar trees, discarded vehicle tires and aeration systems in various lakes.

Fish Tagging

Fish tagging programs were continued across the state to help determine population estimates and growth rates. This year the program involved tagging walleye at Lake Minatare; finclipping trout at East Wild Horse Creek, Tub Springs, the Rock Creek Hatchery, Verdigre Creek; and tagging trout at Lake Ogallala and Grove Lake.

Fish Stockings

A total of 14,023,874 fish and another 40,300 pounds of carp were stocked in state waters during 1986. District I: 743,017; District II: 5,275,488; District III: 406,595; District IV: 2,962,931 and 32,200 pounds of car; District V: 4,635,843 and 8,100 pounds of carp.

Aquatic Vegetation Control

Efforts were made to control aquatic vegetation in several waters across the state during 1986. Among those waters were Chadron State Park pond; Keller SRA Pond #5; Melham Lake; Skyview Lake; Pibel Lake; and Arnold State Lake.

Two Rivers

Two Rivers Trout lake near Venice was once again in operation throughout 1986. The put-and-take fee fishing facility was open a total of 153 days and provided a total of 79,395 hours of fishing for visitors. There were 127,443 rainbow trout stocked during the year and were recorded harvested by fishermen. There were a total of 32,184 fishing tags sold at Two Rivers during 1985.

RESEARCH STUDIES

A primary goal of Fisheries Research is to produce information applicable to solving fishery management problems. Toward this end, several projects were

continued in 1986 and a number of new projects were initiated. A brief listing of the studies includes a Maskenthine Reservoir fishery investigation; threadfin shad investigations; Lake McConaughy predator-prey dynamics; fisherman impact on Branched Oak crappie populations; evaluation of instream flow requirements of channel catfish, selected forage species and selected aquatic invertebrates in the Lower Platte River; development of a population index for gizzard shad; further investigations into largemouth bass population dynamics of Salt Valley Reservoirs; instream flows implementations in Nebraska; Nebraska commercial fishery investigations; population estimates of lower channelized Missouri River commercial fish; and Nebraska commercial reservoir fishery monitoring and assessment.

AK-SAR-BEN AQUARIUM CENTER

The Aquarium Center opened to the public June 16, 1979. Since that date the aquarium has been open to the public all days except Tuesdays, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years. Public viewing is provided through the display tanks which house approximately 52 species of fish, plus turtles, crayfish, salamanders and clams.

Numerous small fishes including threatened species are displayed in a small aquarium unit in the lobby along with a species terrarium unit.

During 1986, tour reservations were made by 348 groups including many school children during the fall, winter, and spring.

In cooperation with the Outdoor Education Division, 13 workshops were held during the evening hours, with an average attendance of 110 people.

Fish collections for the purpose of maintaining display specimen were carried out as needed. Private lake technical assistance was provided in the surrounding area to assist the District V program.

A check station for rifle and archery deer and also archery turkey was maintained from September 15 to December 31, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. During which an all time high number of archery and rifle deer were checked.

During 1985 the aquarium was open to the public a total of 332 days. A total of approximately 125,000 people visited the facility during the year.

FISH PRODUCTION SECTION

The fish production section is primarily responsible for producing and/or procuring fish to stock Nebraska's waters under current management. The program goal is to provide the species, numbers and sizes of fish requested for stocking by the management and research sections. During 1986, five production facilities were operated with 23 permanent employees assisted by seasonal temporary people. All installations function as public use facilities and receive considerable visitation. School groups are very noticeable during the spring.

Techniques for improved intensive warmwater culture of smelt, walleye, tiger musky, and largemouth bass were studied again in 1986.

FISH REARED AND STOCKED BY NEBRASKA HATCHERIES

<u>Species</u>	<u>Eggs/Fry</u>	<u>Fingerling</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Adult</u>
Rainbow trout		108,282	286,013	226,793
Brown trout			76,692	50,832
Northern pike	1,088,000	292,414		
Muskellunge		75		
Tiger musky			36,500	
Channel catfish		583,228	47,365	
White bassXstriped bass			10,085	
Largemouth bass		262,499	29,950	107
Rock bass		7,575		81
Bluegill		2,541,393		25
Yellow perch		358,000		
Walleye	1,725,000	466,494	166,334	
Grass carp			125	
Fathead minnows				968,901
Rainbow smelt	50,000			
Bullfrog tadpoles		146,197		

FISH TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AGENCIES

<u>Species</u>	<u>Eggs/Fry</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Destination</u>
Rainbow trout		8,428		Kansas
Brown trout	435,152			Ohio
Northern pike	12,480,000			Gavins Pt. NFH
	624,000			Virginia
Bluegill			205	Gavins Pt. NFH
Walleye	5,550,000			Oklahoma
Grass carp		818		Colorado
		8,875		Kansas
Walleye	17,160,000			Gavins Pt. NFH

FISH RECEIVED FROM OTHER STATES OR FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR REARING OR STOCKING

<u>Species</u>	<u>Egg/Fry</u>	<u>Fingerling</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Source</u>
Paddlefish			840		Gavins Pt. NFH
Rainbow trout	618,870				Wyoming
	122,400				Ennis NFH
Cutthroat trout			3,488	193	Valentine FAO
Muskellunge		3,000			Iowa
			550		Iowa
Channel catfish		28,400			Gavins Pt. NFH
	491,000				Oklahoma
			10,860		Illinois
	100,000				Virginia
Striped bass hybrids		60,000			Missouri
Largemouth bass		45,000			Gavins Pt. NFH
Smallmouth bass		5,600			Gavins Pt. NFH
Bluegill		186,500			Gavins Pt. NFH
Yellow perch	373,250	70,000			Gavins Pt. NFH
Saugeye hybrids		30,000			Gavins Pt. NFH
Walleye	2,860,000	298,178			Gavins Pt. NFH
Grass carp	150,000				Arkansas
Rainbow smelt				10,000	South Dakota
Northern pike	487,500				Wisconsin
Tiger musky	100,000				Iowa

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Information and Education has three basic purposes: (1) to communicate with both internal and external publics, (2) to develop reciprocal understanding and goodwill with all publics regarding appreciation and utilization of the state's natural resources, and (3) to provide informational, educational, and support services for Commission activities to carry out these goals, the division had field representatives stationed at three district offices and maintained a metro office in Omaha in addition to the central office staff.

Lincoln Office

Carrying on a vital news program is an important function of the division. Releases were geared to local usage on an "affected" area basis, plus statewide, all-media releases on items of statewide interest. Numerous personal appearance programs were presented.

The Art Section provided illustrations for a wide range of purposes, with about 50 percent of its time devoted to artwork and layout for NEBRASKALand Magazine. This included about three major pieces of art per month, plus several small illustrations, as well as supervising the complete format of the magazine through all stages of production. The section was also responsible for design of other Commission brochures and pamphlets, and illustrations for slide shows and television productions. The staff painted showcards, designed booths and signs for use at the State Fair and other events requiring display materials.

During the year, Publications wrote, edited and supervised production of a variety of pamphlets and brochures for other divisions and I & E use, as well as handling dissemination of news. Some of these publications are done annually, such as the hunting, boating, and fishing guides. Others are revised, updated, and reprinted as needed, and still others are one-time publications.

NEBRASKALand Magazine published 10 issues in 1986. The combined January-February issue was a 116-page special "Fort Robinson Illustrated", a compilation of photographs and information about historic Fort Robinson. NEBRASKALand subscriptions continued to increase, with about 67,000 copies printed per month. In addition, advertising revenue totaled about \$20,500.

In 1986 the Commission produced the NEBRASKALand Calendar of Color in house and had it printed by Jacob North Printing Co. of Lincoln.

The Printing Section handled the printing of all Commission materials that were not done commercially. During 1986 this section ran close to 1,050 jobs, requiring over one million sheets of paper. Much of the section's work involved making negatives for photograph printing to illustrate news releases, brochures, NEBRASKALand Magazine and other publications.

The Mail Section handled 263,873 pieces of mail during 1986, and postage amounted to \$68,964.26 plus \$17,559.63 for 137,820 pieces of bulk mail. In

the interest of speed and economy, the section used the United Postal Service. UPS charges were \$21,792.36 for 14,379 pieces.

In 1986 the Photography Section made some 2,000 black and white photo exposures and about 39,000 color exposures. In addition to NEBRASKAland Magazine, they were used to illustrate various Commission publications and slides series and requests for illustrative materials were received from numerous firms in the public relations and publishing fields. Some 1,800 rolls of film were processed and 1,360 prints ranging from contact size to 16 x 20 were made.

In the 21st year, the Outdoor Nebraska weekly radio program was broadcast on an average of 41 radio stations in Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas. The 15-minute program featured interviews with Commission staff and other specialists which emphasized the need for public awareness of the changing environment and important conservation management principles.

The television and film unit produced spot TV and radio announcements which aired on stations across the state. Various types of film were also furnished to the Omaha and North Platte offices for personnel there who did broadcasts over their local stations. The division also presented a weekly "Outdoor Nebraska" TV Show on the ETV network.

Other major efforts included the "Know Nebraska Tours" co-sponsored by the Omaha World Herald and displays at the Nebraska State Fair, selected county fairs across the state, various sports shows, and presented programs on Commission-related subjects for a variety of groups and organizations.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The primary function of the Law Enforcement Division of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is to enforce the laws of the State of Nebraska pertaining to fishing, hunting, boating and the Nebraska State Parks system. These laws are specified in Chapters 37 and 81 of Nebraska Revised Statutes.

Modern natural resource law enforcement is considered by most experts to be an important part of wildlife and park management. Without enforcement of our game, parks and boating laws and regulations, the best laid out plans of expert technicians are not effective. Fish, game and parks law enforcement can probably best be divided into three categories, all of which are equally important. Education is used to show the intent, purpose and need for existing laws and regulations. This is accomplished by various means which are attempts to contact and enlighten the public.

Selective law enforcement is used whenever it becomes apparent that abuse of natural resources is taking place in a particular area. Our enforcement people are mobile, well equipped, and are trained in the operation of radio equipped trucks, boats, snowmobiles and in some cases aircraft. Numerous officers can be detailed into a problem area whenever the need may arise.

General natural resource law enforcement is conducted by field officers in their assigned areas where they strive to maintain a high degree of visibility to both rural and urban citizens. Thereby in a general way helping, educating and enforcing the law for the benefit of all Nebraska residents.

For the year 1986 the Law Enforcement Division had a maximum compliment of 60 positions, consisting of 1 Division Chief, 1 Assistant Chief, 6 Supervisors, 50 field Conservation Officers, 1 Administrative Secretary and 1 Radio Operator.

Conservation Officers drove 1,532,527 miles while patrolling rural and urban areas, at an average cost of 11.43 cents per mile. This figure includes all operating expense such as gas, oil, tires and repairs. The average mileage per gallon of gasoline for total miles driven was 13.45 per gallon of gasoline. Patrol boats were used 1,781.3 hours for the promotion of boating safety at an average cost of \$7.13 per hour. Snowmobiles used for enforcement purposes were driven 435 miles at an average cost of \$2.41 per mile.

During 1986 Conservation Officers contacted and checked 28,985 hunters, 75,521 fishermen, 1,312 trappers, 23,416 boats inspected, 74,635 miscellaneous contacts, most of which were park oriented, 3,405 complaints were investigated and 477 public appearances.

A total of 4,245 arrests were made during 1986 compared to 4,167 arrests made in 1985. Of the total number of arrests 4,064 were found guilty by the courts. The conviction percentage of the total number of arrests and citations issued is 95.74 percent and the conviction percentage for the total number of arrests actually brought to trial is 99.31 percent.

OPERATION GAME THIEF REPORT

During 1986 an additional 57 O.G.T. investigations were initiated and have resulted in 26 arrests, (there are still eleven (11) investigations pending). A total of \$2,775.00 in fines and costs and \$4,140.00 in liquidated damages were assessed by the courts in these cases. These additions brought O.G.T. totals since its inception in September of 1982 to:

283 investigations initiated
113 investigations resulting in arrests
161 total arrests consisting of:
 99 deer cases, 4 turkey cases, 13 upland game cases,
 10 furbearer cases, 8 waterfowl cases, 12 fish cases,
 1 bobcat case, 1 eagle case, 1 hawk case and 1 swan case
 with 8 cases dismissed, 1 not filed and 2 found not guilty.

\$15,703.42 in fines and costs assessed
\$25,140.00 in liquidated damages returned to the Game Fund

93.2% conviction rate on arrests made
39.9% of investigations initiated resulted in arrests

Average number of arrests per successful investigation = 1.42

Animals involved in violations where arrests were made:

83 deer, 73 pheasants, 81 raccoons, 8 muskrats, 5 mink,
8 opossum, 5 grouse, 141 fish, 6 ducks, 16 geese, 4 turkeys,
46 quail, 2 bobcats, 1 eagle, 1 swan and 1 red-tailed hawk.

66 rewards totalling \$6,025.00 have been paid on information resulting in 66 big game cases, 3 small game cases, 6 fish cases, 1 furbearer case, 1 bobcat case, 1 eagle case, 1 swan case and 1 hawk case. There is still one reward pending.

Operation Game Thief has proven to be a worthwhile enforcement and public relations tool. In addition to the actual cases made, the program has generated a great deal of general information about game law violators and areas of poaching activity which has resulted in more effective enforcement efforts.

1986 OFFENSES BY CATEGORY

SMALL GAME

Hunting with aid of artificial light from or attached to vehicle	9
Loaded shotgun in vehicle	170
Hunting without a permit	49
Hunting in closed season	10
Hunting without a habitat stamp	36
No sex or species identification	26
Hunting or shooting from a public road	22
Hunting without permission/trespassing	23
Overbag limit of game	6
Accessory to game law violation	2
Nonresident in possession of resident hunting permit	4
No pet/game farm/taxidermy permit	7
Failure to appear	3
Hunting within 200 yards of dwelling	4

CATEGORY TOTAL 369

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	13
Hunting without a permit	14
Hunting in closed season	43
Hunting without habitat stamp	22
No sex or species identification	2
Hunting or shooting from a public road	20
Hunting without permission/trespassing	11
Hunting waterfowl with unplugged shotgun	49
Hunting waterfowl without a migratory waterfowl stamp	24
Overbag limit of game	26
Using lead shot in steel shot zone	31
Taking protected species	2
Nonresident hunting on resident permit	2
Hunting in an illegal or closed area	2
Wanton waste	2
Entering unauthorized area	1
Miscellaneous	1

CATEGORY TOTAL 265

ANTELOPE

Hunting without a permit	1
Hunting without a habitat stamp	1
Hunting without permission/trespassing	2
Illegal possession of game animals	1
Insufficient or no hunter orange	1
Failure to tag game	1

CATEGORY TOTAL 7

DEER

Hunting with aid of artificial light from or attached to a vehicle	2
Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	1
Hunting without a permit	22
Hunting in closed season	28
Hunting without a habitat stamp	9
Hunting from a public road	6
Hunting without permission/trespassing	29
Overbag limit of game	6
Accessory to game law violation	7
Nonresident in possession of resident hunting permit	5
Hunting in an illegal or closed area	7
Illegal possession of game animal	6
Borrowing or loaning a permit	9
Insufficient or no hunter orange	22
Failure to tag	56
Checking game in wrong unit	4
Failure to check game	33
Wanton waste	1
Hunting with high power rifle during deer season w/o deer permit	7
Failure to cancel permit	5
Selling game	1
Criminal or malicious mischief	1
Hunting within 200 yards of dwelling	1
Miscellaneous	1
CATEGORY TOTALS	269

TURKEY

Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	7
Hunting without a permit	11
Hunting in closed season	22
Hunting without a habitat stamp	3
No sex or species Identification	2
Hunting or shooting from a public road	8
Hunting without permission/trespassing	15
Overbag limit of game	1
Accessory to game law violation	6
Shooting game birds with a rifle	1
Hunting from a vehicle	2
Illegal possession of game animals	1
Borrowing or loaning a permit	1
Failure to tag game	6
Checking game in wrong unit	4
Failure to check game	1
Apply for and obtain more than two archery/rifle permit	2
CATEGORY TOTALS	93

TRAPPING

Hunting with aid of artificial light attached to or from a vehicle	237
Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	4
Hunting without a permit	34
Hunting in closed season	19
Hunting without a habitat stamp	8
No sex or species identification	2
Hunting without permission/trespassing	2
Accessory to game law violation	2
No pet/game farm/fur buyer permit/taxidermy permit	2
Illegal possession of game animals	4
Failure to display permit	1
Illegal bait sets	1
Incomplete or no fur or game or taxidermy records	2
Failure to check game	1
Holding bobcat after legal possession time	1
Use of illegal weapon/devices	3
Fleeing to avoid arrest	1
Miscellaneous	3

CATEGORY TOTALS 327

FISHING AND BULLFROGS

Fishing without a permit	661
Fishing in closed season	5
Fishing without permission/trespassing	8
Overbag limit of fish	14
Accessory to fish law violation	1
Nonresident fishing on resident permit	7
Fishing in an illegal or closed area	5
Borrowing or loaning a permit	1
Use of illegal weapon/devices	24
Possession of illegal size game fish	40
Illegal number or types of hook and/or lines	39
Snagging fish	9
Failure to stop snagging after limit reached	1
Seining in closed area	6
No bait vendors permit	2
Failure to appear	16
False information to an officer	2
Miscellaneous	2
Contempt of court	1
No trout stamp	3

CATEGORY TOTALS 847

BOATING

Improperly equipped vessel	308
Speeding or causing excessive wake or skiing in restricted area	14
No boat or snowmobile reg./symbols/improper reg./etc.	156
Failure to wear life jacket below Gavins Point Dam	10
Towing skier without mirror or observer	17
No life jacket on child under 12	4
No lights on boat after sundown	7
Skiing without a life jacket	2
Boating in a restricted area	8
Failure to stow ski rope	1
Reckless boat operation	1
Allowing person under 14 to operate a motor boat	2
Failure to appear	7
Miscellaneous	2

CATEGORY TOTALS 539

TRAFFIC

Speeding, careless or reckless driving of a vehicle	7
No registration/no or expired license plates	12
No drivers license	3
Driving left of center	2
Failure to stop at stop sign	2
Miscellaneous	1

CATEGORY TOTALS 27

PARKS

No park entry permit	1371
Entering, driving or swimming in unauthorized area	135
Littering	29
Drinking alcoholic beverage on state property	36
Minor in possession of alcoholic beverages	19
Speeding, careless or reckless driving of a vehicle	8
No registration/no or expired license plates	42
Pets on beach or at large in a state park	12
Possession of a controlled substance	13
Failure to appear	26
Destruction of state property	1
No drivers license	8
Criminal or malicious mischief	2
Fleeing to avoid arrest	1
Driving while intoxicated	1
Procuring alcoholic beverage for a minor	1
Disturbing the peace	1
Theft	3
Failure to stop at a stop sign	1
Miscellaneous	6

CATEGORY TOTAL 1716

SNOWMOBILES

No snowmobile registration/symbols/improper registration	4
Carry uncased firearm on a snowmobile	2
CATEGORY TOTAL	6

MISCELLANEOUS

Shooting from a public road	1
Trespassing	3
Incomplete game or taxidermy records	3
Use of illegal weapon/device	1
Littering	17
Minor in possession of alcoholic beverages	6
Possession of a controlled substance	9
Failure to appear	1
Criminal or malicious mischief	3
Fleeing to avoid arrest	1
Theft	2
Miscellaneous	2
CATEGORY TOTAL	49

MISCELLANEOUS BIG GAME

Hunting in closed season	2
CATEGORY TOTAL	2

NONGAME BIRDS AND ANIMALS

Hunting in closed season	1
Possession of protected nongame animals	8
CATEGORY TOTAL	9

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL ARRESTS & SUMMONS ISSUED</u>	<u>TOTAL CONVICTIONS</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ARRESTS</u>
1963	2000	1943	97.15
1964	1943	1904	97.99
1965	1921	1897	98.82
1966	1971	1930	97.91
1967	1799	1768	98.27
1968	1767	1743	98.64
1969	1909	1859	97.38
1970	2520	2492	98.89
1971	2642	2580	97.65
1972	2735	2702	98.79
1973	2491	2418	97.07
1974	3130	3048	97.38
1975	3220	3152	97.89
1976	3314	3233	97.56
1977	3379	3275	96.92
1978	2954	2862	96.81
1979	3230	3101	96.00
1980	5405	5267	97.45
1981	5324	5153	96.79
1982	5343	5169	96.74
1983	4829	4675	96.81
1984	4516	4286	94.91
1985	4167	3950	99.06
1986	4245	4064	95.74

1986

MANDATORY ROAD CHECKS

<u>Dist.</u>	<u>No. Road</u> <u>Checks</u>	<u>Vehicles</u> <u>Checked</u>	<u>Hunters</u> <u>Checked</u>	<u>Fishermen</u> <u>Checked</u>	<u>Misc.</u> <u>Checked</u>	<u>Confiscations</u>	<u>Arrests</u>
1	3	9	50	19	20	-----	-----
2	2	466	175	12	--	5 grouse 5 unknown birds	5
3	3	731	301	47	--	1 grouse 9 bass	2
4	NONE HELD						
5A	NONE HELD						
5B	4	1274	356	6	8	11 ducks 2 unknown birds 3 deer 30 pheasants 1 raptor foot 6 pkg antelope	35
=====							
TOTALS	12	2480	882	84	28	9 bass 30 pheasants 6 grouse 11 duck 3 deer 1 raptor foot 6 pkg antelope 7 unknown birds	42

1986 Operation Costs for the Agency Radio Communications System

The statewide agency radio system consists of a network of bases and mobile repeaters which allow radio communications between district offices, from mobiles to offices and from mobile to mobile. Following are the costs for the operation of the radio system for 1986 - they do not include the costs incurred by individual divisions for operation or replacement of mobile radio equipment:

Base & repeater repair and maintenance	\$ 3,056.78
Tower and antenna repair and maintenance	\$ 1,775.94
Telephone line rent and electricity to tower sites	\$ 2,035.97
Tower rental (for coax, antenna and equipment space) and tower site leases	\$11,274.00
Total cost for operation of agency radio system	\$18,142.69

The total operating expense for 1986 was \$1,484.16 less than the expense for 1985 primarily due to a reduction in expenditures for tower and antenna repair and maintenance. However, the expenses for the remainder of the 1986-87 fiscal year and next fiscal year will be substantially higher due to the loss of our Ainsworth tower and other pending repairs. In addition, other failures, particularly of antennas and coaxial cable, are very likely due to equipment age.

1986 Costs for Operation of Law Enforcement Division Mobile and Portable Radios Scanners and Vehicle Emergency Equipment

Below are the costs for operation of Law Enforcement Division mobile and portable radios scanners and vehicle emergency equipment for 1986. The amount spent for purchase of new or replacement equipment as authorized in the division budget is not included.

Mobile radio repair and maintenance	\$ 4,447.51
Miscellaneous repair and maintenance (siren-PA, scanners, portables, red lights)	\$ 277.84
Installations and removal of mobile radios, scanners, siren-PA's, red lights	\$ 5,172.44
Total division expense for repair and maintenance, removal and installation of mobile and portable radios, scanners and emergency equipment	\$ 9,897.79

OPERATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

The Operations and Construction Division is assigned the responsibility of providing necessary personnel and equipment to assist other agency divisions with engineering, construction, maintenance, and transportation services.

Division organization is divided into three sections with responsibility described as follows:

Engineering: Administration of a regular inspection of agency facilities and areas reporting needed improvements, repairs, and providing corrective solutions to appropriate division administration. This section also provided daily inspection of force account construction for compliance to planned design and developed specifications for materials and equipment purchased by the division during 1986.

Construction: To provide personnel trained in engineering and various construction skills to supervise and operate heavy equipment and install and maintain utility services. Personnel trained in building trades and crafts assisted with construction, renovation, and repair of agency facilities.

Maintenance: To provide personnel and equipment for the daily supervision, operation, and maintenance of unmanned areas. Responsibilities assigned this section also include the establishment of tree nurseries and maintaining a tree transplanting program, assisting with regulation enforcement, and public contact relating to unmanned areas, and providing and manning an equipment and material supply shop for the Parks Division.

During 1986 the Operations and Construction Division continued to reduce staff and equipment because of continuing cuts in General Fund appropriations by emergency sessions of the Legislature. Division staff was reduced, by not filling vacant positions, to 30 full-time employees and 48 temporary employees. Many seasonal employees were hired at the job site for the duration of one project to reduce travel and lodging costs.

Inmate workers from the penitentiary were reduced to one nine-man crew and were assigned work at Mahoney State Park and Two Rivers, Schramm, and Louisville Recreation Areas. For use of this inmate crew, agency funds were required to pay wages of the Department of Corrections supervisor and to provide all transportation charges to and from the job site. These costs were quite substantial for the work received and will probably reduce, if not eliminate, this program.

The division staff operated from offices and shops located at 2200 North 33rd, 3019 Apple Street, and 3001 "Y" Street, in Lincoln, Nebraska. Outstate personnel were headquartered at North Platte, McCook, Fort Robinson, and Sherman County Recreation Area. Temporary crews were located at Fort Hartsuff and Fort Atkinson Historical Parks, and at the Fort Robinson adobe repair project.

CONSTRUCTION SECTION

Construction projects during 1986 were focused on the opening of three major additions to the park system: The Union Pacific Caboose Park at Two Rivers Recreation Area, the South barracks wall and Visitor Center at Fort Atkinson Historical Park, and Keller Park Recreation Area near Ainsworth, Nebraska. All of these projects received many hours of division employee's time and skills. Other major projects were the completion of 1.7 miles of entrance road to the Bowring Ranch Historical Park and the development of roads and camping pads for a new campground facility on Lighthouse Point at Lake Minatare Recreation Area.

LINCOLN MAINTENANCE

Personnel of the Lincoln Maintenance Section provided daily maintenance and supervision to seven Salt Valley Areas: Branched Oak, Pawnee, Conestoga, Bluestem, Olive Creek, Stagecoach, Wagon Train; and five District V Areas: Alexandria, Rockford, Memphis, Blue River, Pioneer. In addition to these recreation areas, refuse pickup, latrine cleaning, and mowing was provided for Wildwood, Twin Lakes, Yankee Hill, Killdeer, Hedgefield, and Branched Oak Wildlife Management Areas. Daily maintenance provided to all recreation areas were mowing and trimming, pickup and hauling of garbage, cleaning, painting, and repair of latrines, installation and repair of boat docks and ramps, repair of wells and water systems, and care of trees and shrubs. Supervision and regulation of pay campgrounds at Branched Oak and Pawnee received special attention from division personnel because of the popularity with area campers. In addition to their regular duties maintenance personnel were assigned to assist Conservation Officers with enforcement of park regulations during peak use times of major holidays and to set up and man exhibits at the Omaha and Lincoln Sport Shows and the State Fair.

TRANSPORTATION AND EQUIPMENT

The Operations and Construction Division provided a wide variety of equipment such as air compressors, water pumps, tree spades, stump cutters, tar kettles, tractors, trucks, and loaders, to area superintendents for temporary use to complete numerous needed projects. Bulk purchases of maintenance supplies were obtained and delivered to the Lincoln Maintenance Shop, inventoried, and transported to major areas of the park system. Gasoline and diesel fuel were provided for agency vehicles from pumps at 3001 "Y" Street. During 1986, 51,769 gallons of gasoline and 20,000 gallons of diesel fuel were dispensed to Game and Parks' vehicles. Equipment purchased during 1986: three 3/4 ton pickups, one 1/2 ton pickup, and we entered into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for a 120G Caterpillar motor grader.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Personnel and equipment headquartered at Lincoln, McCook, North Platte, Fort Robinson, and Sherman County provided maintenance on 315 miles of agency non-hard surfaced roads and parking areas.

Force account projects and services provided to various areas during 1986 include:

ARBOR LODGE STATE HISTORICAL PARK: Construct concrete and brick base and install historical marker at East entrance to Arbor Lodge Mansion.

AK-SAR-BEN AQUARIUM: Regrade, repair and surface with crushed rock all interior roads and parking lots. Construct collection box for entry fees and evaluate aquarium tank leak.

BRANCHED OAK RECREATION AREA: Correct drainage problem in the parking lot above the bait concession building with installation of an asphalt curb to divert water around building.

BOWRING RANCH HISTORICAL PARK: Construct and surface with gravel 1.7 miles of entrance road from Highway 61 to main ranch area. Construct and install three cattle gates, and re-model ranch chicken house into a park office.

BIG ALKALI WILDLIFE AREA: Install two double toilets with metal and concrete containment pits.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Repair and paint offices in Personnel, Game, Information and Education, Parks, Operations, and Planning and Programming. Build shelving in basement for Outdoor Education; construct credenza and cabinet for District V office/ construct computer table and cabinets for Fisheries/ repair doors of Commission conference room/ remove snow from parking lots and sidewalks during winter.

CONESTOGA WILDLIFE AREA: Remove, level, and landscape washed out soil erosion dam.

DISMAL RIVER: Move canoe campsite to new location.

EAST SUTHERLAND & BIRDWOOD WILDLIFE AREAS: Rebuild and repair dikes and shoreline.

FORT ATKINSON HISTORICAL PARK: Construct and install display cabinets for new Visitor Center, and complete the re-construction of the south barracks wall using logs donated by the Burlington Northern Foundation.

FORT ROBINSON STATE PARK: Adobe renovation using agency funds for labor and L.B. 309 funds for major material purchases; construction of sidewalks from parking areas to adobe cabins south of Park Lodge; and hauling of hay from Bowring Ranch and Sherman reservoir to the fort.

HORTICULTURE: Load and haul trees for planting to Fort Robinson, Fort Atkinson, Mahoney Park, Schramm, Lake McConaughy, Minatare, Branched Oak, Red Willow, and North Platte.

INDIAN CAVE STATE PARK: Repair filter unit and replace sand media at water treatment plant; repair piping, as needed.

KELLER PARK RECREATION AREA: Construction of 3/4 mile of interior roads and camping area. Surface with gravel and accomplish landscaping and roadside seeding; construction of stage for dedication services; and develop minimal erosion control along Bone Creek.

LAKE McCONAUGHY: Completely renovate interiors of two shower latrine buildings at Martin Bay area; close old garbage dump site, as per orders of Environmental Control, and construct access to new site. Demolish and remove from site the concrete block building of the former clubhouse.

LAKE MALONEY: Repair asphalt recreation access road to Kansas Point Campground.

EUGENE T. MAHONEY STATE PARK: Install trailer residence from Cornhusker Farms as a temporary office; relocate water and electric service; construct and blade roads; trim and plant trees; pump water from lake and general cleanup of entire area.

ROCK CREEK STATION HISTORICAL PARK: Install handicapped access sidewalks and auto parking for campground area; construct two picnic shelters.

ROCK CREEK HATCHERY: Removal of trees and stumps along Rock Creek blown down by severe windstorm.

SCHILLING WILDLIFE AREA: Rebuild and repair roads throughout the area and construct waterways and drainage ditches serving area.

SUTHERLAND RESERVOIR: Regrade and surface with gravel three miles of access and area roads.:

TWO RIVERS RECREATION AREA: Complete the remodeling of ten cabooses for overnight cabins along with electrical, water, and sewer utilities; surface parking areas; and landscape with trees, shrubs, and signs. Complete the construction of new maintenance shop.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION DIVISION

The Outdoor Education Division has three major purposes: 1) to develop understanding with all publics regarding appreciation and utilization of the state's natural resources; 2) to provide educational services for Commission activities; and 3) to provide specific educational services for the public.

To accomplish these purposes the division conducts a broad education program for the general public, including: adult skill development and resource appreciation workshops, the state's mandatory Hunter Education Program, the Boating Safety Program and coordination of federal funds, wildlife education programs in schools, primarily through Project WILD, and the new Aquatic Education program.

Some 21 outdoor education workshops were held across the state during 1986. Attendance approached 1,700 participants. High interest continued in the fishing workshops, particularly those dealing with specific species. In addition, good attendance and interest was maintained in workshops dealing with canoeing and canoe camping, and family camping.

Hunter Education

The volunteer corps of 465 instructors conducted a total of 291 student courses in 1986. These courses produced 5410 graduates. The certification rate for 1986 was 97%.

Instructors received two newsletters and those who remained on the active list were given subscriptions to NEBRASKAland Magazine. Other instructor activities included inservice training workshops, at Platte River Park, Ogallala, Norfolk and Kearney.

Instructor certification workshops throughout the state numbered 16. From these, 71 new instructors were trained.

Hunting accidents increased from the previous reporting period. Nebraska had two fatalities related to firearms hunting, both self inflicted. Non-fatal accidents totalled 15.

The program coordinator spoke to 29 civic groups and groups of school children.

Boating Safety

In 1986 there were over 52,000 boats registered in Nebraska, a slight increase over the 49,756 registered in 1985. There were 22 boating accidents that involved 26 boats. The number of injuries increased to 12 in 1986, compared to seven in 1985. However, fatalities decreased 33 percent, from nine in 1985 to six in 1986. Carelessness and inattention continue to be major contributing factors, and collision with another vessel or with an obstruction, swamping or flooding and fire were all major types of accidents in 1986.

The boating program continues to place emphasis on the Home Study Course that is available to all interested individuals. Selected boat dealers keep a supply of manuals and other materials on hand in local communities for the convenience of school teachers interested in utilizing the school program package. Some dealers also have home study kits on hand and present them to new boat owners.

Several insurance companies now give a 10 to 15 percent credit on insurance costs for those who successfully complete the course, and some insurance agents continue to furnish the course to their clients.

Approximately 25 canoe safety classes, boating and water safety and associated programs were given in 1986, to various groups including 4-H, scouts, civic organizations and private businesses.

Project WILD

The agency began sponsoring Project WILD in 1985, with program management the responsibility of the Outdoor Education Division. Through some 64 workshops since 1985, Project WILD has reached 1,594 teachers and resource people. Feedback from teachers using Project WILD activities in class has been particularly rewarding. Project WILD is now the most widely used, nationally available wildlife conservation and environmental education program for kindergarten through high school teachers.

Aquatic Education

Federal funding for Aquatic Education became available in 1986 with application of excise taxes to previously untaxed fishing equipment. The Game and Parks Commission's proposal for the program was approved and work began July 1, 1986.

Through this program the agency will take a variety of approaches to provide materials and learning to all groups, from school science classes to adults. The goal of Nebraska's Aquatic Education Program is to extend the knowledge of all Nebraskans on our water resources, on fisheries management and on fishing skills.

Other Activities

In addition to the schedule of outdoor education workshops, 133 speaking presentations were made during the year by Outdoor Education Division staff to civic organizations, sportsmen's clubs and youth groups.

The distribution of 6,000 Wildlife Week kits provided by the National Wildlife Federation was handled in the spring of 1986.

The "Outdoor Nebraska" radio program is produced and has 39 subscriber stations across Nebraska and in bordering states.

PARKS

The Division of State Parks is responsible for administration and operation of Nebraska's system of state park areas. These responsibilities relate to visitor contact functions, day-to-day park housekeeping chores, planning and programming improvements, and providing the necessary resource protection and enhancement measures to assure quality outdoor recreation experiences for future generations of park users.

State park areas are scattered throughout Nebraska and offer a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities to all its citizens. Opportunities vary from area to area. Some parks contain modern campgrounds and cabins, swimming pool and offer trailrides, while at others visitors may enjoy the cultural interpretation of a historic site or place. Still other opportunities include primitive camping in the Pine Ridge country and backpacking along the Missouri River.

The 84 areas comprising the State Park System fall into the following three classifications. Also listed is the acreage data by classification.

STATE PARKS - are public use areas containing statewide significant scenic, scientific and/or historical values and being of sufficient size to allow adequate development without infringing upon the primary values.

STATE RECREATION AREAS - possess resource values primarily associated with the active outdoor recreation pursuits, day use activities and camping. All the state's major water oriented areas are of this classification.

STATE HISTORICAL PARKS - are sites which are of notable historical significance to the State of Nebraska.

<u>Areas</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Water or Marsh Acres</u>	<u>Land Acres</u>	<u>Total Acreage</u>
State Parks	7	85	29,560.07	29,645.07
State Recreation Areas	67	81,745.16	34,497.47	116,242.63
State Historical Parks	10	0	2,060.34	2,060.34
Totals	84	81,830.16	66,117.88	147,948.04

Park personnel also maintain the recreation facilities on 17 Wildlife Management Areas.

Park Planning

Planning is an effort to solve particular park design problems through the preparation of graphic designs, descriptive narratives, and preliminary cost estimates for various park developments. In 1986, continued planning work was performed for Eugene T. Mahoney State Park. Several campground plans were prepared for the new Niobrara State Park. Considerable time was spent in the

coordination of consultants and construction of Eugene T. Mahoney State Park, Niobrara State Park and Calamus Reservoir.

Sign Shop

1986 was an exciting and varied year for the Sign Shop. Among the projects completed were:

Two new area maps, one for Fremont SRA and the other for Merritt Reservoir SRA.

An on site repainting of three Game and Parks Commission pole logo type entrances were completed. Two at Schramm Park SRA and one at two Rivers SRA.

Signs were constructed for the dedication at Two Rivers SRA for the new Union Pacific Caboose Park and the dedication of Keller Park SRA.

A brick topographical map was constructed for the Andersen Visitor Center at Fort Atkinson for their dedication. The map depicts the trail Lewis & Clark traveled from St. Louis to the west coast.

Signs were constructed for the Nebraska State Fair. This year Brenda Singley, "Miss TEEN" was featured, as well as apple cider pressing and outdoor cooking.

Signs and banners were constructed for Omaha's River City Roundup. The Game and Parks Commission's parade entry featured the stagecoach from Fort Robinson, which we are currently refinishing, for the 1987 season.

Routed signs were constructed for the new Bowring Ranch SHP.

A directional lobby marking system was constructed for the 48th Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, which was held in Omaha.

Routed signs are currently being constructed for the new Calamus Reservoir Project.

Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund

In 1981 the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission established a Snowmobile Land Leasing Program utilizing the Nebraska Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund to provide additional lands for public snowmobiling in addition to those trails established and maintained on state recreation areas. The Land Leasing Program is administered in cooperation with the Nebraska State Snowmobile Association. N.S.S.A. affiliated clubs initiate contact with landowners for proposed land sites. Application for snowmobile lease sites are then forwarded to be reviewed by the Snowmobile Advisory Board. The Board presents its recommendations to the Commission for those applications which should be funded or rejected.

Private lands are leased for the period beginning December 1 though April 30 and the current rates have been established at a maximum of \$2 per acre or

\$100 per corridor mile trail 100 feet in width. For the 1986-87 season, 8.5 miles of trail and 6,964 acres of private land were leased for a total of \$8,518.

Park Horticulture and Landscape Program

This past growing season was an excellent year for new and established plants in the state park system. Cool weather throughout most of the summer coupled with the above normal rainfall produced good growing conditions.

The nurseries at Branched Oak SRA and Ash Hollow SHP produced over 10,000 plants for our park personnel who requested them. Nurseries at Niobrara and Eugene T. Mahoney State Parks area ready to provide landscaping material for these new parks as they need them. Three thousand containerized plants at Fort Kearny SHP provided plants for many areas.

The arbor aerial pruning truck continues to be in demand. The Southwest Reservoirs and Fort Robinson SP used the truck for extended periods. The truck was kept in the eastern part of the state during the winter to accommodate eastern parks needs.

Efforts to upgrade greenhouse production facilities continue to be an item that needs attention. For the time being, we rent what space we can.

Capital Improvements

The source of funding capital improvements underwent a major change July 1, 1978. Improvement dollars are now derived from park entry permit sales and NORDA (Park Cash Funds) instead of State General Fund dollars. National Park Service Grants (Land & Water Conservation Fund) have had considerable impact on park system development. Federal expenditures by calendar years on previously authorized projects are \$119,255 for 1981, \$73,040 for 1982, \$351,731 for 1983 and \$436,611 for 1984 and \$299,659 for 1985. For 1986 we received \$378,559.

New capital construction monies authorized by program for FY 86/87 are as follows:

<u>Program Area</u>	<u>Appropriated</u>
900 Park Areas - General	\$ 62,500
967 State Parks	50,000
968 State Historical Parks	60,000
969 State Recreation Areas	75,000
Total	<u>\$247,500</u>

309 Projects

In addition to capital projects, many park structure renovations were accomplished through the Building Renewal Program. Areas receiving Building Renewal Funds (309 Projects) are as follows:

Lewis & Clark	\$13,338.34
Lake McConaughy	10,380.94
Fort Robinson	46,195.28
War Axe	7,442.50
Fort Kearny	15,930.00
Ponca	486.40
Total	<u>\$91,229.56</u>

Operations and Maintenance

Park and Recreation Areas are administered under two separate programs. Program 549 provides funding for administration, operation and maintenance of Parks, Historical Parks and Recreation Areas offering improved facilities and resident maintenance crews. Program 617 funds park crews to maintain the system's lessor developed, unmanned areas and the Operations Division which plays a supporting role to all park crews when maintenance and construction projects exceed the capabilities of park crews.

1986-87 Budget Authority

	<u>Program 549</u>	<u>Program 617</u>
General Fund Appropriation	\$2,878,917	\$1,415,554
Cash Fund Appropriation	<u>3,260,700</u>	<u>1,258,126</u>
Total Appropriation	\$6,139,617	\$2,673,680

1985-86 Budget Authority

General Fund Appropriation	\$2,671,512	\$1,441,398
Cash Fund Appropriation	<u>3,339,336</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
Total Appropriation	\$6,010,848	\$2,941,398

1985-86 Expenditures

Personal Services (Permanent)	\$1,762,069	\$ 831,107
Personal Services (Temporary)	1,194,472	527,154
Personal Services (Benefits)	496,114	245,251
Operating Expenses & Supplies	1,910,573	716,725
Travel	22,262	41,929
Capital Outley	377,490	50,599
Encumbrances	<u>285,506</u>	<u>124,498</u>
Total Disbursements	\$6,048,486	\$2,537,263

Events

1. Caboose Park at Two Rivers State Recreation Area was dedicated April 27, 1986.
2. The visitor center at Fort Atkinson State Historical Park was dedicated and open to the public on May 18, 1986.
3. The Keller Park State Recreation Area was dedicated and open to the public on June 8, 1986.
4. The perimeter road at Calamus Reservoir State Recreation Area was asphalted and construction began on support facilities.
5. Two shower/latrine buildings and the residence were completed at Eugene T. Mahoney State Park. The office building has been started.
6. Cabins and interior roads in the new portion of Niobrara State Park have been completed. Work is in progress on the utilities and other facilities at the park.
7. Interior roads and parking areas at Fort Robinson State Park have been hardsurfaced.
8. The main access road for the headquarters at Bowring Ranch State Historical Park has been completed.
9. The bakery at Fort Hartsuff was completed and open for living history demonstration. The laundress quarters is nearing completion.
10. A 52 pad, semi-modern campground was started at Lake Minatare State Recreation Area.

Personnel

The 84 park areas are maintained and operated by a permanent park staff of 115 people. Distribution of these positions is shown in the following listing:

<u>Item</u>	<u>No. of Areas</u>	<u>Manned Park Areas</u>	<u>Unmanned Park Areas</u>	<u>Permanent Positions</u>	<u>Temporary Positions</u>
State Parks	7	7	--	24	302
Hist. Parks	10	9	1	16	88
Recre. Areas	67	24	43	61	185
Central Office	--	--	--	9	3
Horticulture	--	--	--	3	5
Sign Shop	--	--	--	2	3
Total	<u>84</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>586</u>

Only 40 park areas are staffed with on-site personnel and these areas utilize 75 of the permanent field positions. The remaining 26 field positions are assigned other recreation areas and 7 park maintenance crews to attend 31 unmanned areas' housekeeping tasks.

Some 586 temporary seasonal workers assisted the parks' staff during the recreation season. Additional summer help was obtained from several Federal employment programs that were available to this agency. Because of cuts in the Federal budget, various programs were reduced or not funded. Inmate labor crews were a great help to this Division on several areas around the State. A number of areas also utilized the volunteer services of local groups and the military.

Visitations

Accurate counts of park visitors are difficult achievements. Most areas have multiple accesses and almost 2/3 of the public-use areas within the system are unmanned. There are 47 reporting stations in the system that contribute most of the total visitor count. The remaining 34 areas are credited with conservative lump sum visitor estimates.

ESTIMATED PARK VISITOR COUNTS

Area	84	85	86
Arbor Lodge SHP	155,700	157,000	152,000
Ash Hollow SHP	67,800	55,000	38,100
Bluestem SRA	185,000	190,000	197,000
Box Butte SRA	75,520	75,100	75,000
Branched Oak SRA	785,000	810,000	820,000
Bridgeport SRA	13,000	36,410	51,450
Buffalo Bill Ranch SHP	44,519	51,380	36,645
Calamus SRA	0	0	4,080
Chadron SP	193,782	190,825	186,970
Champion Mill SHP	2,050	4,895	9,272
Conestoga SRA	165,000	170,000	170,000
Dead Timber SRA	88,800	95,965	104,395
Enders Reservoir SRA	67,120	68,119	45,280
Fort Atkinson SHP	41,295	42,190	58,700
Fort Hartsuff SHP	26,595	30,800	29,625
Fort Kearny SHP	65,239	60,630	60,275
Fort Kearny SRA	136,075	125,292	120,880
Fort Robinson SP	342,858	332,250	313,766
Fremont SRA	646,075	713,525	720,175
Indian Cave SP	116,916	156,765	149,411
Johnson Lake SRA	331,600	343,861	337,540
Lake Maloney SRA	0	94,348	106,200
Lake McConaughy SRA	448,776	523,703	635,155
Lake Minatare SRA	240,200	243,627	232,920
Lewis & Clark SRA	461,894	204,264	193,726
Louisville SRA	53,350	254,816	268,858
Medicine Creek SRA	131,862	141,154	117,496
Merritt Reservoir SRA	120,851	114,282	123,175
Mormon Island SRA	258,550	260,000	253,500
Niobrara SP	147,733	233,157	239,097
Oliver Creek SRA	32,000	35,000	37,000
Oliver Reservoir SRA	10,000	42,175	43,030
Pawnee SRA	725,000	750,000	765,000
Platte River SP	191,431	271,527	230,027
Ponca SP	171,432	190,269	148,810
Red Willow SRA	80,734	165,695	114,628
Rock Creek Station SHP	41,660	39,055	39,200
Schramm Park SRA	96,200	92,940	94,250
Sherman Reservoir SRA	257,189	249,262	253,750
Stagecoach SRA	22,000	25,000	26,000
Swanson Reservoir SRA	47,628	48,221	30,122
Two Rivers SRA	228,332	288,789	190,105
Victoria Springs SRA	41,450	30,875	31,665
Wagon Train SRA	50,000	54,000	66,000
Wildcat Hills SRA	7,000	3,500	4,890
Willow Creek SRA	17,725	91,524	98,036
Windmill SRA	42,525	43,000	39,750
34 Unmanned Areas	375,000	375,000	350,000
Total	7,850,466	8,575,190	8,412,954

CABIN/CAMPING - VISITOR COUNT

CABINS

	<u>Regis- trations</u>	<u>Partici- pants</u>	<u>Cabin Days</u>	<u>Average Part/Reg</u>	<u>Average Days/Part</u>
Chadron	661	2,639	9,629	3.99	3.65
Fort Rob Cab	615	4,047	12,675	6.58	3.13
Fort Rob Lodge	844	2,398	5,750	2.84	2.40
Niobrara	414	1,366	4,098	3.30	3.00
Platte River	4,129	22,179	63,312	5.37	2.85
Ponca	469	2,029	7,235	4.33	3.57
Two Rivers	662	2,929	10,672	4.42	3.64
Victoria Springs	58	265	1,011	4.57	3.82
TOTALS	7,852	37,852	114,382	4.82	3.02

FEE CAMPGROUNDS

	<u>Regis- trations</u>	<u>Partici- pants</u>	<u>Camping Days</u>	<u>Average Part/Reg</u>	<u>Average Days/Part</u>
Ash Holloow SHP	456	1,090	2,376	2.39	2.18
Branched Oak SRA	6,330	20,665	53,739	3.26	2.60
Chadron SP	2,893	8,765	19,997	3.03	2.28
Dead Timber SRA	1,110	3,574	9,011	3.22	2.52
Fort Kearny SRA	3,955	12,704	30,063	3.21	2.37
Fort Robinson SP	4,543	14,256	35,970	3.14	2.52
Fremont SRA	6,998	22,750	53,444	3.25	2.35
Indian Cave SP	4,253	12,251	30,798	2.88	2.51
Johnson Lake SRA	6,270	21,163	73,878	3.38	3.49
Keller	297	767	1,727	2.58	2.25
Lake Maloney SRA	242	648	1,489	2.68	2.30
Lake McConaughy SRA	10,668	31,893	72,621	2.99	2.28
Louisville SRA	7,611	26,609	70,314	3.50	2.64
Medicine Creek SRA	975	3,081	7,803	3.16	2.53
Morman Island SRA	3,814	10,724	23,613	2.81	2.20
Niobrara SP	879	2,341	5,845	2.66	2.50
Pawnee SRA	3,450	10,826	25,857	3.14	2.39
Ponca SP	2,705	9,333	23,115	3.45	2.48
Red Willow SRA	446	946	2,394	2.12	2.53
Rock Creek Station S	250	623	1,492	2.49	2.39
Swanson SRA	576	1,790	4,532	3.11	2.53
Two Rivers SRA	5,888	16,509	43,332	2.80	2.62
Victoria Springs SRA	991	3,034	7,392	3.06	2.44
Willow Creek SRA	667	2,213	5,040	3.32	2.28
Windmill SRA	3,076	7,963	18,410	2.59	2.31
TOTALS	79,343	246,517	624,252	3.11	2.53

Income

While most park activities are fee free, certain areas do charge for various activities and services. Camping, lodging, swimming and trail rides are typical activities for which fees are charged. Other park income is derived from restaurant and concession sales, and leases for cabin sites, conservation practices and concession sites. Monies generated from these sources are returned to the park cash fund to help support park maintenance programs. The following listing shows the income producing areas and dollars generated in total and by the various activities. Certain services and facilities are subject to sales tax and state lodging tax. Some areas are also subject to county lodging tax. All figures shown are net income with taxes deducted.

STATE PARK AREAS LAND AND WATER ACREAGE

AREA	LAND ACRES	WATER ACRES	AREA	LAND ACRES	WATER ACRES
Alexandria SRA	55	46	Lake Ogallala SRA	339	320
Arbor Lodge SHP	65		Lewis & Clark SRA	1315.4	7982.13
Arnold SRA	18	22	Long Lake SRA	30	50
Ash Hollow SHP	1001.30		Long Pine SRA	153	1
Atkinson Lake SRA	39.55	14	Louisville SRA	142.37	50
Blue River SRA	14		Medicine Creek SRA	1200	1768
Bluestem SRA	417	325	Memphis SRA	160.36	48
Bluewater Overlook HS	35.53		Merritt SRA	6146.8	2906
Bowman Lake SRA	23.06	20	Mormon Island SRA	91.58	60.62
Bowring Ranch SHP	325		Niobrara SP	1632.53	7
Box Butte SRA	612.4	1600	North Loup SRA	12.56	7
Branched Oak SRA	1180.42	1800	Olive Creek SRA	437	175
Bridgeport SRA	118.99	78	Oliver SRA	917	270
Brownville SRA	21.61	1	Pawnee SRA	1804	740
Buffalo Bill SHP	65.02		Pelican Point SRA	36.41	
Calamus SRA	1188	5124	Pibel Lake SRA	47.6	24
Chadron SP	799.26	2	Pioneer SRA	8.1	
Champion Lake SRA	2.48	10.78	Platte River SP	412.73	5
Champion Mill SHP	3.79		Ponca SP	859.28	
Cheyenne SRA	17.61	15	Ravenna SRA	53.25	30
Conestoga SRA	486	230	Red Willow SRA	1358	1628
Cottonwood SRA	180	60	Riverview Marina SRA	36.79	.25
Crystal Lake SRA	33.01	30	Rock Creek Lake SRA	54	50
Dead Timber SRA	150.25	50	Rock Creek Station SRA	40	
DLD SRA	6.85		Rock Creek Station SHP	353	
Enders SRA	1111	1707	Rockford Lake SRA	286.25	150
Eugene T. Mahoney SP	420.6		Schramm Park SRA	325.91	14.13
Ferry Landing SRA	26		Sherman SRA	1541.3	2845
Fort Atkinson SHP	154.36		Stagecoach SRA	412	195
Fort Hartsuff SHP	18.4		Summit SRA	345	190
Fort Kearny SRA	163.18	23	Sutherland SRA	36.71	3017
Fort Kearny SHP	39.21		Swanson SRA	1157	4974
Fort Robinson SP	22604.72	68	Two Rivers SRA	301.92	320
Fremont SRA	400.76	269.5	Union Pacific SRA	25.7	12.25
Gallagher SRA	23.86	400	Verdon Lake SRA	29.66	45
Hord Lake SRA	64	20	Victoria Springs SRA	55	5
Indian Cave SP	2830.95	3	Wagon Train SRA	747	315
Johnson Lake SRA	80.88	2060	Walgren SRA	80	50
Keller Park SRA	186	10	War Axe SRA	9.07	16
Lake Maloney SRA	132	1000	Wildcat Hills SRA	652.08	
Lake McConaughy SRA	5492	35700	Willow Creek SRA	900	700
Lake Minatare SRA	812	2158	Windmill SRA	153.74	13.5
			TOTALS	66117.88	81830.16

INCOME SUMMARY

	Resale Income	Food Service	Camping Income	Cabin Income	Misc Leases	Concession Leases	Swimming Income
Alexandria SRA	0.00	0.00	1,654.06	0.00	0.00	75.00	0.00
Arbor Lodge SHP	2,095.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ash Hollow SHP	2,181.55	0.00	71.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bassett Maint.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bluestem	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Box Butte SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,230.00	0.00	0.00
Branched Oak SRA	0.00	0.00	54,105.68	0.00	480.00	12,007.75	0.00
Brownville SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
Buffalo Bill SHP	10,494.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.24	0.00
Chadron SP	3,834.36	3,392.30	10,459.23	58,880.67	0.00	72.42	7,684.15
Chadron Maint.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Champion Mill SHP	538.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dead Timber	0.00	0.00	5,337.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Enders SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,163.25	0.00	0.00
Fort Atkinson SHP	2,765.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fort Hartsuff SHP	2,097.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fort Kearny SHP	6,130.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fort Kearny Rec	0.00	0.00	30,426.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fort Robinson SP	52,111.52	145,740.65	31,778.16	206,933.10	0.00	1,346.04	7,709.29
Fremont	0.00	0.00	38,003.32	0.00	0.00	770.18	0.00
Grand Island Maint.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Indian Cave SP	81.45	0.00	28,715.31	0.00	0.00	977.00	0.00
Johnson Lake SRA	0.00	0.00	49,110.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Keller Park	0.00	0.00	1,479.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lake Maloney	0.00	0.00	442.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lake Minatare SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,420.00	642.56	0.00
Lake McConaughy	0.00	0.00	68,299.76	0.00	50.00	25,782.29	0.00
Lewis & Clark SRA	0.00	0.00	187.00	0.00	0.00	3,351.07	0.00
Louisville SRA	0.00	0.00	54,023.70	0.00	0.00	1,555.84	0.00
Medicine Creek SRA	0.00	0.00	6,777.54	0.00	804.00	1,603.24	0.00
Memphis SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	314.14	0.00
Merritt SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,094.83	0.00
Morman Island SRA	0.00	0.00	25,750.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Niobrara SP	0.00	0.00	3,879.20	27,824.56	0.00	1,444.80	2,732.37
Oliver Res.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pawnee SRA	0.00	0.00	23,454.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Platte River SP	21,179.72	167,011.46	6,421.62	148,568.56	0.00	0.00	17,111.12
Ponca SP	0.00	0.00	21,974.76	38,426.70	0.00	0.00	9,371.75
Red Willow SRA	0.00	0.00	2,413.24	0.00	640.00	1,621.30	0.00
Rock Creek Station	1,445.90	0.00	1,870.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Schramm Park SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sherman SRA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,552.50	2,732.46	0.00
Southwest General	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Swanson SRA	0.00	0.00	4,894.06	0.00	516.00	2,623.57	0.00
Two Rivers SRA	0.00	0.00	41,772.46	47,577.79	0.00	1,221.21	0.00
Victoria Springs SRA	0.00	0.00	6,337.86	3,913.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wildcat Hills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Willow Creek SRA	0.00	0.00	3,247.53	0.00	0.00	13.15	0.00
Windmill SRA	0.00	0.00	20,816.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
General	0.00	0.00	88.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	104,957.19	316,144.41	543,792.52	532,125.33	10,855.75	64,469.09	44,608.68

INCOME SUMMARY CONT.

	Trail	Boats &	Misc.	Park	Park	Game	Habitat	Total
	Rides	Other Rec.	Income	Permits	Fund	Fund	Fund	Income
Alexandria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,729.06	0.00	0.00	1,729.06
Arbor Lodge	0.00	0.00	24,392.06	18,357.00	44,844.88	1,046.53	52.50	45,943.91
Ash Hollow	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,535.00	6,787.84	529.34	7.50	7,324.68
Bassett Maint.	0.00	0.00	0.00	78.00	78.00	36.00	0.00	114.00
Bluestem	0.00	0.00	45.00	0.00	45.00	0.00	0.00	45.00
Box Butte	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,230.00	0.00	0.00	1,230.00
Branched Oak	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,370.00	95,963.43	3,714.00	112.50	99,789.93
Brownville	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Buffalo Bill	0.00	1,063.45	122.19	16,996.00	28,696.51	111.00	15.00	28,822.51
Chadron	9,557.49	7,574.89	422.56	20,664.00	122,542.07	1,813.90	75.00	124,430.97
Chadron Maint.	0.00	0.00	0.00	413.00	413.00	58.00	0.00	471.00
Champion Mill	0.00	0.00	3.00	991.00	1,532.45	244.00	30.00	1,806.45
Dead Timber	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,352.00	6,689.13	61.00	15.00	6,765.13
Enders	0.00	0.00	0.00	979.00	2,142.25	266.50	30.00	2,438.75
Fort Atkinson	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,853.00	11,618.85	930.25	60.00	12,609.10
Fort Hartsuff	0.00	0.00	1.50	5,230.00	7,329.12	369.60	22.50	7,721.22
Fort Kearny	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,130.32	667.25	0.00	6,797.57
Fort Kearny Rec	0.00	0.00	0.00	26,916.00	57,342.72	423.00	52.50	57,818.22
Fort Robinson	36,460.70	39,795.65	651.93	34,079.00	556,606.04	8,191.00	517.50	565,314.54
Fremont	0.00	0.00	136.02	52,292.00	91,201.52	0.00	0.00	91,201.52
G. Island Maint.	0.00	0.00	0.00	216.00	216.00	13.50	15.00	244.50
Indian Cave	9,101.45	0.00	183.50	28,123.00	67,181.71	0.00	0.00	67,181.71
Johnson Lake	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,849.00	66,050.39	945.50	172.50	68,077.39
Keller Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,479.21	0.00	0.00	1,479.21
Lake Maloney	0.00	0.00	64.23	212.00	719.19	0.00	0.00	719.19
Lake McConaughy	0.00	0.00	175.00	58,292.00	152,599.05	18,427.50	352.50	171,379.05
Lake Minatare	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,698.00	11,760.56	793.50	7.50	12,561.56
Lewis & Clark	0.00	0.00	0.00	539.00	4,077.07	0.00	0.00	4,077.07
Louisville	0.00	0.00	0.00	64,749.00	120,328.54	7,428.50	202.50	127,959.54
Medicine Creek	0.00	0.00	4.00	1,392.00	10,580.78	123.50	0.00	10,704.28
Memphis	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	314.14	0.00	0.00	314.14
Merritt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,094.83	0.00	0.00	6,094.83
Morman Island	0.00	0.00	231.11	26,982.00	52,963.61	633.00	22.50	53,619.11
Niobrara	4,258.93	244.80	0.00	7,662.00	48,046.66	4,649.25	937.50	53,633.41
Oliver Res.	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,185.00	2,185.00	1,577.00	15.00	3,777.00
Pawnee	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,454.63	0.00	0.00	23,454.63
Platte River	21,471.25	20,253.12	0.72	53,365.00	455,382.57	1,264.70	120.00	456,767.27
Ponca	14,326.57	0.00	1,071.10	22,983.00	108,153.88	1,067.50	105.00	109,326.38
Red Willow	0.00	0.00	502.52	3,116.00	8,293.06	236.00	15.00	8,544.06
Rock Creek Sta.	0.00	1,618.36	0.00	6,051.00	10,985.56	911.00	52.50	11,949.06
Schramm Park	0.00	0.00	125.00	0.00	125.00	0.00	0.00	125.00
Sherman	0.00	0.00	0.00	979.00	8,263.96	87.00	30.00	8,380.96
Southwest Gen.	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,489.00	1,489.00	282.00	37.50	1,808.50
Swanson	0.00	0.00	0.00	988.00	9,021.63	168.00	22.50	9,212.13
Two Rivers	0.00	5,254.10	4.04	89,962.00	185,791.60	112,828.00	937.50	299,557.10
Victoria Springs	0.00	2,465.69	0.00	4,344.00	17,061.50	1,652.30	270.00	18,983.80
Wildcat Hills	0.00	0.00	0.00	679.00	679.00	170.00	37.50	886.50
Willow Creek	0.00	0.00	0.00	661.00	3,921.68	80.00	15.00	4,016.68
Windmill	0.00	0.00	370.00	10,499.00	31,685.90	1,486.50	172.50	33,344.90
General	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	88.00	0.00	0.00	88.00
ACTIVITY TOTAL	95,176.39	78,270.06	28,505.48	634,120.00	2,453,024.90	173,285.62	4,530.00	2,630,840.52

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

Major responsibilities include administration of several federal grant programs; comprehensive planning; special studies; local planning review; water resource project monitoring; and environmental review of all federally assisted developments in the state.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 provides 50% federal grants-in-aid to the various states and their political subdivisions for comprehensive planning, acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is supported by a portion of the user fee on federal areas, tax on motor boat fuels, the sale of surplus property and revenues from off-shore petroleum leases. About 85 percent of the LWCF is derived from these off-shore leases.

Although no federal funds were received in Fiscal Year 1982, reduced funding was resumed in Fiscal Year 1983 and continued through Fiscal Year 1986. Of the approximately \$531,000 allocated in Fiscal Year 1986, sixty percent or \$318,600 was reallocated for local community projects and forty percent or \$212,400 retained for agency-sponsored projects. All project grants are on the basis of 50% federal and 50% local funds (or state funds in the case of agency-sponsored projects).

Over the past twenty-two years, the federal government, state and local communities have invested more than \$73.7 million in new and improved outdoor recreation facilities under this program in Nebraska. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is administered at the federal level by the National Park Service from the Midwest Regional Office in Omaha.

Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration act of 1937 and the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950 are companion programs which provide financial assistance to the states and territories for restoration activities. These programs are administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Sport Fish Restoration Program is funded by a 10 percent excise tax on fishing rods, creels, reels, baits and lures. The Wildlife Restoration program is funded by an 11 percent excise tax on arms and ammunition, and a 10 percent excise tax on handguns and archery equipment.

To participate in these programs, the State must assent to the provisions of the acts. Work previously approved is performed at State expense, after which 75 percent of the State's costs are reimbursed from the appropriate federal aid funds. During 1986, these programs made about \$3.2 million available to Nebraska for fish and wildlife surveys and inventories, research, land acquisition, development and maintenance, technical assistance, hunter safety training and aquatic resource education.

Federal Aid for Commercial Fisheries

The Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act of 1964 is administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service and provides financial assistance to the States for activities designed to monitor or develop commercial fishing. Nebraska annually receives \$19,000 from this program.

Comprehensive Planning

The continuing planning responsibilities for updating the new SCORP Action and Policy Plan for review by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and NPS included addressing the "Nebraskans Outdoors" topics under study in "Americans Outdoors", the President's Commission study report which was completed in December 1986. It considers the need for continuation of the federal LWCF matching grant program started in 1965 and up for renewal by Congress in 1989.

The NASIS (Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey) was done on the regular schedule during the spring of 1986, in cooperation with the UNL Bureau of Sociological Research, and it included the "Nebraskans Outdoors" questions. The Bureau felt that changing to a fall survey would make for better use of student time and labor. The fall NASIS involved tag-on questions about fishing, boating, camping and swimming for comparison with NASIS 1979 in documenting trends in recreation participation by Nebraskans are used to assess the economic value of outdoor recreation in the State.

Other on-going regular activities included technical assistance, LWCF programming reviews, meetings, trail studies and cooperation in SCORP planning with other NGPC divisions and the NPS regional office staff. Participation in the National SCORP Planners annual meeting and the 8th National Trails Symposium as well as helping judge entries in the Recreation and Humanities categories for the Nebraska Community Improvement (NCIP) scrap book competition were among the year's short-term activities.

Resource Monitoring

Opportunities for recreation, fish and wildlife features are present in most multipurpose resource management projects. The various federal and state construction agencies responsible for these projects usually request assistance from Game and Parks Commission staff members in order to evaluate potential benefits. Project proposals of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Soil Conservation Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, and Nebraska Department of Roads were reviewed during the year.

The Prairie Bend Unit study directed by Bureau of Reclamation is presently the major water resources planning effort in Nebraska. In addition to activities related to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, project staff members participate in meetings of the Public Values Group.

Two Section 404 permit evaluations now underway will be subject to the full Environmental Impact Statement (E.I.S.) process. Deer Creek Reservoir

(Wyoming) and two Forks Reservoir (Colorado) would cause significant impacts to the Platte River ecosystem in Nebraska.

Nebraska continues to participate in the Missouri River Coordination Committee (along with representatives from the states of Missouri, Kansas and Iowa) to address environmental concerns pertaining to the channelized Missouri - Sioux City to St. Louis. Game and Parks Commission representatives attended inter-agency meetings pertaining to the Missouri National Recreation River (Yankton to Ponca State Park).

Several Soil Conservation Service small watershed (Public Law 83-566) projects, Natural Resources District proposals, in a number of communities throughout the state, power line corridor studies, and numerous state/county highway and bridge projects are among the ongoing activities requiring Game and Parks Commission participation.

REALTY DIVISION

The Realty Division was involved in land acquisition; appraisals; lease renewals, payment and cancellations; appraisal reviews; negotiations; and public hearings during the past year.

Appraisal Review

Review of land appraisals for political subdivisions seeking federal aid was accomplished for two communities.

Appraisals

Twelve tracts were appraised during the 1986 calendar year. One of those tracts has been purchased; the others are in various stages of negotiations.

Acquisitions

In 1986 the Game and Parks Commission acquired title for an addition to Redbird Wildlife Management Area in Holt County with funds from the Habitat Bill.

Public hearings were held on all acquisitions in compliance with 25-2502, 25-2504, and 25-2505, Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation donated a 420 acre tract in Cass County to the Game and Parks Commission. The area has been designated a State Park and named Eugene T. Mahoney State Park.

Another donation of 17 acres was made to the Game Commission from the Game and Parks Foundation and is an addition to Harold W. Andersen Wildlife Management Area in Howard County.

175.9 acres were purchased at a Sheriff's sale in Knox County as an addition to Niobrara State Park, bringing total acreage at that State Park to 1,231.21 acres.

An agreement with Antelope Natural Resources District leases 50 acres of land and 80 acres of water to the Game and Parks Commission. The area has been named Chalkrock Wildlife Management Area.

Requests for powerline easements were made to the Game and Parks Commission and approved by the Commissioners at Bluestem State Recreation Area, Pressey Wildlife Management Area, and Niobrara State Park. An easement was granted for a bank stabilization project in Webster County at Elm Creek Wildlife Management Area.

The following is a listing of all wildlife management areas purchased by the Game and Parks Commission since 1977 when the habitat program began and the in lieu of tax paid to each county in 1986.

COUNTY	AREA	IN LIEU OF TAXES PAID IN 1986 TAX	ACRES
ANTELOPE	GROVE LAKE	258.52	160.00
	RED WING	195.90	160.00
	RED WING	269.02	160.00

ANTELOPE		\$ 723.44	480.00
BANNER	BUFFALO CREEK	\$ 633.00	1,236.48
CEDAR	WISEMAN	521.08	134.60

CEDAR		\$ 521.08	214.60
CHERRY	ANDERSON BRIDGE	\$ 78.18	137.00
CLAY	BLUEWING	49.28	80.00
	BLUEWING	362.13	80.00
	BULRUSH	41.40	80.00
	GREEN WING	354.37	80.00

CLAY		\$ 807.18	320.00
DAKOTA	BASSWOOD RIDGE	\$ 0.00	40.00
DODGE	POWDER HORN	\$ 1,547.42	290.00
FILLMORE	BLUEBILL	368.92	80.00
	SANDPIPER	923.46	160.00

FILLMORE		\$ 1,292.38	240.00
GAGE	ARROWHEAD	\$ 0.00	320.00
HALL	MARTIN'S REACH	\$ 91.06	89.00
HAMILTON	GADWALL	438.02	90.00
	PINTAIL	450.68	203.80
	PINTAIL	65.92	80.00

HAMILTON		\$ 954.62	373.80
HOLT	REDBIRD	\$ 350.77	400.00
HOWARD	HAROLD W ANDERSEN	\$ 1,004.92	255.00
JEFFERSON	ALEXANDRIA	\$ 5.87	3.25
JOHNSON	HICKORY RIDGE	771.34	250.00
	OSAGE	231.00	50.86
	OSAGE	481.04	137.00
	TWIN OAKS	584.22	118.63
	TWIN OAKS	365.90	105.00

	TWIN OAKS	2,459.76	440.00
	TWIN OAKS	602.98	120.00
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JOHNSON		\$ 5,496.24	1,221.49
KEYA PAHA	THOMAS CREEK	\$ 292.94	692.00
KNOX	BOHEMIA PRAIRIE	975.02	360.00
	BOHEMIA PRAIRIE	814.98	320.00
	GREENVALE	254.67	160.00
	GREENVALE	73.37	40.00
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KNOX		\$ 2,118.04	880.00
LANCASTER	JACK SINN MEMORIAL	945.10	169.00
	JACK SINN MEMORIAL	675.17	129.67
	JACK SINN MEMORIAL	288.72	30.59
	JACK SINN MEMORIAL	347.48	60.00
	JACK SINN MEMORIAL	423.75	93.19
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LANCASTER		\$ 2,680.22	482.45
LINCOLN	CHESTER ISLAND	22.41	69.21
	NORTH RIVER	348.75	681.13
	PLATTE	624.46	241.60
-----		-----	-----
LINCOLN		\$ 995.62	991.94
MADISON	OAK VALLEY	1,803.93	480.00
	YELLOWBANKS	752.86	320.00
-----		-----	-----
MADISON		\$ 2,556.79	800.00
NANCE	PRAIRIE WOLF	\$ 171.46	155.00
OTOE	TRIPLE CREEK	\$ 476.24	80.00
PAWNEE	BOWWOOD	964.34	320.00
	PRAIRIE KNOLL	529.88	120.00
-----		-----	-----
PAWNEE		\$ 1,494.22	440.00
PHELPS	WEST SACRAMENTO	\$ 21.08	71.00
PLATTE	LONG BOW	\$ 741.80	467.80
RICHARDSON	KINTERS FORD	\$ 438.77	80.00
SALINE	SWAN CREEK	\$ 0.00	160.00
SAUNDERS	JACK SINN MEMORIAL	\$ 666.57	73.32
SCOTTSBLUFF	BUFFALO CREEK	\$ 871.04	1,083.52

SEWARD	BURR OAK	661.47	138.50
	NORTH LAKE BASIN	848.95	178.00
	NORTH LAKE BASIN	1,142.63	160.00
	OAK GLEN	2,257.03	458.00
-----		-----	-----
SEWARD		\$ 4,910.08	934.50
SHERIDAN	METCALF	256.72	640.00
	METCALF	340.66	231.80
-----		-----	-----
SHERIDAN		\$ 597.38	871.80
STANTON	RED FOX	266.68	200.00
	WOOD DUCK	1,251.20	240.00
	WOOD DUCK	211.60	40.00
-----		-----	-----
STANTON		\$ 1,729.48	480.00
WEBSTER	ELM CREEK	\$ 167.19	120.00
YORK	KIRKPATRICK BASIN	\$ 536.76	230.24
	SPIKERUSH	629.04	194.50
-----		-----	-----
YORK		\$ 1,165.80	424.74
		=====	=====
		\$35,600.88	14,908.69

Arrowhead in Gage County, Swan Creek in Saline County, and Dakota were acquired from tax exempt entities, therefore, we make no in lieu of tax payment on those two areas.

Leases

The Game and Parks Commission currently leases 78 areas through the Realty Division at a cost of \$223,036.56. A breakdown of the types of leases and their costs during calendar year 1986 is:

\$ 3,001.00	14 Canoe Campsites
\$ 22,414.56	Habitat Areas, Fisheries, Grazing
\$134,344.00	Office Space in Lincoln, Omaha, and Kearney
\$ 19,447.00	16 Storage Areas
\$ 11,538.00	18 Tower Leases
\$ 31,250.00	Work Areas
\$ 660.00	Hangar Space
\$ 382.00	Post Office Boxes

RESOURCE SERVICES

The primary responsibility of the Resource Services Division is development, improvement, and continued maintenance of Wildlife Habitat. This involves development and maintenance of lands and facilities on State Wildlife Management Areas; as well as the administration of the Nebraska Wildlife Habitat Plan, which also involves private lands, and lands under control of other Governmental Agencies.

The division is also responsible for management of captive waterfowl and pheasant production flocks, and Elk, Buffalo, and Bighorn Sheep herds; controlled hunting areas such as the Sac-Wilcox Area, the Clear Creek Area, and the Randall Schilling Area; fowl cholera control, nest box management, technical land reconnaissance and acquisition; the provision of facilities for sporting dog training and field trials; coordination and assistance with other governmental agencies and groups; and technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, sportsmen groups, and individuals.

As an extension of the habitat program, the division allocated 43,800 trees to farmers and ranchers for wildlife habitat plantings. These were distributed by mail during the month of April. In addition, the division distributed 875 bags (5 lbs. each) of seed mixtures for individuals or groups to plant as wildlife food plots.

Public Land Habitat Improvements:

During 1986, a total of 40 counties in Nebraska participated in the cooperative Roadside Seeding Program. These counties received \$22,000.00 for the purchase of grass and legume seed to be used to establish valuable roadside nesting cover for wildlife.

The Living Snowfence Program was established in 1983 to encourage the establishment of living snowfences along selected state and county roadsides. Agencies cooperating in this program included the Game and Parks Commission, County Highway Departments, and the State Department of Roads, although the program has now been discontinued with D.O.R. During 1985, \$8,000.00 was expended for this program. To date, \$140,000.00 has been paid directly to the above road departments for their respective efforts in the Living Snowfence Program.

In 1986, the Resource Services Division again coordinated efforts with the U.S. Forest Service for various habitat developments and protective projects. Wildlife habitat has been improved by development and protective measures on McKelvie, Bessey, and Pine Ridge Forest Service Lands. As of this date, \$173,267.00 has been expended on the above areas. Habitat development included tree and shrub plantings (11,000 during 1986), grass and legume seedings, oats-sweet clover plantings, and food plot plantings of various agricultural crops.

At Harlan County Reservoir, the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers and the Game and Parks Commission again coordinated efforts for various habitat projects on

reservoir lands. Numerous tree and shrub plantings, grass and legume seedings, and food plot plantings have been made on this area. In addition, several fencing projects have been completed at various locations. To date, the Commission has expended approximately \$808,094.00 for wildlife habitat improvements on the Harlan County Area.

Resource Services Personnel completed numerous developments and improvements on approximately 18,000 acres of land on State Wildlife Management Areas during 1986. Approximately 72,000 trees and shrubs were planted on these areas, along with numerous grass-legume seedings, oat-sweet clover plantings, and food plot plantings of corn, milo, soybeans, sunflower, etc.

The Private Lands Habitat Program:

The Private Lands Habitat Program was developed to create new wildlife habitat on farms and ranches, and to enhance or protect existing habitat. This has been accomplished through contracts with landowners under a cost share arrangement between the Game and Parks Commission and participating Natural Resources Districts across the state. The Commission provides 75% of the program funds, and the NRD's provide the remaining 25%.

Although there is currently a moratorium on new contracts because of a fund shortage, the program has 2,209 cooperators enrolled. These cooperators have enrolled a total of 41,997 plus acres of land in various practices of the private lands program.

There are twenty-three Natural Resources Districts that have signed agreements with the Game and Parks Commission to establish local programs using the 75% cost share. It is anticipated that the Commission will soon be able to enroll new cooperators in the program, and assist the NRD's with local habitat programs.

Wildlife Land Acquisition:

A very important phase of the Nebraska Wildlife Habitat Plan is directed toward the acquisition of wildlife lands. Each year, numerous technical land reconnaissances are performed by Resource Services personnel. These reconns are presented to a habitat screening committee, and are assigned priority ratings for acquisition.

Due to a fund shortage, a total of only thirty-three acres of land was purchased during 1986. This acquisition was an addition to the Redbird Wildlife Management Area in Holt County. It is anticipated that additional lands can be purchased during 1987 when more funds become available.

Since 1977, the acquisition program has purchased 15,584 acres of land at a cost of \$6,644,847.00. All of these lands have been added to the list of State Wildlife Management Areas, and are being developed and managed for wildlife production and public hunting and fishing.

Dog Trial and Training Activities

The Resource Services Division of the Game and Parks Commission continues to administer all sporting dog training and field trial activities within the state. Administration of these activities involves: (1) maintenance of a roster of all dog clubs in the state; (2) review and approval of all field trial applications; (3) establishment, development, and maintenance of field trial and training facilities on state-owned or state-operated lands; (4) issuance of Recall Pen Permits; (5) handling all correspondence from dog clubs and individual dog owners; and (6) personal assistance to clubs and individuals concerning trial and training activities.

During 1986, a total of thirty organized dog clubs were listed on the state roster. Three of these clubs still maintain training areas on private or leased lands. And the Game and Parks Commission still maintains three training areas and one trial area on state owned property.

During 1986, there were 60 licensed trials conducted under American Kennel Club, United Kennel Club, or American Field Club rules. For some reason, there was only one Fun Trial or Club trial conducted during 1986. The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Nebraska and the Nebraska Brittany Club both conducted National Trials on the Branched Oak Lake Dog Trial Area. Therefore, the total number of field trials conducted in Nebraska during 1986 was 63. As a point of interest, 54% of these trials were conducted on state-owned or operated lands.

General Comments:

The Branched Oak Lake Dog Trial Area continues to be a very popular field trial area. During 1986, 16 licensed trials and two national trials were conducted on that site. Yankee Hill State Wildlife Management Area was the site of seven trials; Mead had five; and Alexandria and Ft. Robinson areas had one each.

WILDLIFE

The Wildlife Division develops management programs for game and nongame wildlife including big game, upland game, waterfowl, furbearers, nongame animals and birds, and endangered wildlife in the best interest of Nebraskans.

Research projects involved in a variety of studies aimed at gathering information to assist in development of management programs. Research expertise is provided to other divisions such as Resource Services and Law Enforcement.

Management programs are designed to insure adequate safeguards to protect the resource while providing maximum hunting, trapping and recreational use.

Division personnel gather pre-season and post-season population data, determine productivity, collect harvest information, conduct banding studies, document habitat changes and estimate their impact on wildlife, gather baseline population information on nongame species, develop practices to protect threatened species and study non-native species to determine their suitability for introduction. The division is responsible for monitoring private game farm operations, controlled shooting areas, falconry operations and pheasant stocking programs through game farm operation at Wilcox and the day old chick cooperator program.

Research Programs

Work continued on a research study on pheasant production in ecofallow. This study is being conducted in northeast Lincoln County and 1986 was the second year of the three year study.

Soil samples were collected and examined for shot, and livers were collected from birds that died in the spring and analyzed for lead. Work was initiated on evaluation of quail habitat today compared to 1970 data. Work was also initiated on the Missouri River to study effects of peaking and its relationship to aquatic insect populations.

Other activities included routine hair, blood and tissue identification for Law Enforcement and serving as a consultant on chemistry and wildlife disease related problems for all divisions.

Management Programs

Nongame and Endangered Species

A statewide census of Nebraska's wintering bald eagle populations was made in early January. A total of 462 bald eagles were found in the state.

Field studies were conducted in western Nebraska to determine production and nesting requirements of the prairie falcon and ferruginous hawk. Banding of nestlings was conducted to determine mortality and movements.

Barn owl restoration through artificial nest box construction and placement, and release of captive reared birds was continued.

Reported sightings of river otters, whooping cranes and swift fox were recorded and attempts were made to verify observations. Several comprehensive reports documenting sites used by whooping cranes were prepared.

Bobcat carcasses collected through mandatory tagging of legally harvested animals were analyzed for age and reproductive performance.

There were 89 bobcats harvested during the 1985-86 trapping and hunting season.

The division issued thirteen falconry and 22 coyote aerial shooting permits in 1986.

Intensive research was conducted on least tern nesting colonies located on the Platte, Niobrara, and Missouri Rivers. Data was used to develop management recommendations that would insure protection of nesting sites. Aerial and ground surveys were also conducted on portions of the Niobrara River to determine size of breeding population and to check production.

Artificial shelter/nest boxes that were previously attached to trees in several locations along the Missouri River in southeast Nebraska were monitored in an attempt to determine the status and distribution of the threatened flying squirrel.

A biological opinion was completed for the proposed Landmark Platte River diversion project to insure that the project will not jeopardize endangered or threatened species.

Funds were collected from 1985 Individual Income Tax returns to mark the second year for Nebraska's Nongame Wildlife Income Tax Checkoff. A total of \$97,260 was collected netting \$87,260 for the Nongame Program after the Department of Revenue received \$10,000 as a collection fee. Several projects were implemented using Checkoff funds. Some of them included:

- (1) Funding was provided for habitat maintenance work on the Platte River for the benefit of least terns, piping plovers, and whooping cranes.
- (2) Bird feeders and feed were provided to 100 rest homes throughout the State.
- (3) Eight river otters, obtained from Idaho and Ontario, Canada, were released on the South Loup River in the ongoing effort to restore this species to Nebraska.
- (4) Funding was provided to Project Wild, an educational program that teaches young people from elementary school through high school basic concepts about wildlife.

- (5) Materials were provided for construction of nest boxes for barn owls and kestrels.
- (6) Informational brochures were developed on whooping crane identification and the Game and Parks Commission's nongame and endangered species program.

Big Game

Table 1 shows the season dates and success for the 1986 big game seasons. Deer populations remained generally high as indicated by good hunting success and a record high harvest. Antelope permits were decreased due to lower populations. Turkey harvest was a record high during the spring season and slightly below the record in the fall.

Table 1. 1986 Big Game Harvest Summary

<u>Species</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Number of Permits</u>	<u>Harvest</u>	<u>Success</u>
Deer	Archery	Sept. 15-Dec. 31*	12,022	2,605	22%
	Firearm	Nov. 8 - Nov. 16	51,479	34,454	67%
Antelope	Archery	Aug. 20 - Dec. 31**	149	11	7%
	Firearm	Sept. 27 - Oct. 5	826	645	78%
Turkey	Spring Archery	Apr. 1 - May 11	1,173	163	14%
	Spring Shotgun	Apr. 19 - May 11***	6,258	2,365	38%
	Fall Archery	Oct. 1 - Nov. 7	604	118	20%
	Fall Shotgun	Oct. 18 - Nov. 7***	5,319	2,839	53%

* Archery season closed during firearm season

** Archery season closed during firearm seasons for deer and antelope

*** Niobrara and Verdigre Units split into Early and Late seasons

Table 2. Firearm Deer Permits, Harvest & Success, 1985 and 1986.

Management Unit	Permits		% Either Sex		Harvest		% Success	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
Blue	5644	6227	60	60	3539	3950	63	63
Buffalo	2883	2940	70	70	2016	2197	70	75
Calamus East	1960	1952	60	60	1134	1180	58	60
Calamus West	2033	2050	60	70	1290	1332	64	65
Elkhorn	3366	3648	60	70	1905	2350	57	64
Frenchman	2652	2881	80	100	2228	2446	84	85
Keya Paha	2121	2626	100	100	1557	1881	73	72
Loup East	2591	2854	60	60	1532	1703	57	60
Loup West	2280	2441	60	60	1590	1687	70	69
Missouri	3204	3462	60	70	2027	2241	63	65
Pine Ridge	3598	3846	70	100	2261	2456	63	64
Plains	1350	1545	70	70	1002	1010	74	65
Platte	2316	2328	50	70	1584	1673	68	72
Republican	2582	2667	70	70	1923	2011	74	75
Sandhills	2974	2643	60	60	1894	1722	64	65
Upper Platte	1282	1294	50	70	888	863	69	70
Wahoo	3386	3798	70	70	2189	2464	65	65
<u>Late Seasons</u>								
DeSoto Early*	100	100	100	100	57	33	57	33
DeSoto Late*	100	100	100	100	39	34	39	34
East Rep. Late	414	409	100	100	277	249	67	61
West Rep. Late	716	708	100	100	512	459	72	65
Keya Paha Late	1019	---	100	---	674	---	66	--
N.P. River Late	151	151	100	100	104	66	69	44
Platte R. Late	709	809	100	100	384	447	54	55

*Muzzleloaders only

Deer Deer numbers continued at a high level in most areas of the state. Rifle permits and success are shown in Table 2. The best deer unit continued to be the Frenchman in the southwest. This was a record kill with statewide harvest of 34,454 and 67 percent success. Second firearm permits were allowed starting September 4.

Archery permits number 12,022 and success remained high at 22 percent.

Antelope

Table 3 lists the units open and success for the 1986 antelope season. Permits were down 32 percent from 1985, and success was 78 percent in 1986 compared to 75 percent in 1985.

The 1986 archery antelope hunting success was 7 percent, with 11 antelope taken by 149 permittees.

Table 3. Antelope Permits, Harvest and Success for 1985 and 1986.

Management Unit	Permits		Harvest		Success	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
Banner	299	285	257	245	86	86
Box Butte	72	54	50	31	69	57
Brown	--	25	--	15	--	60
Cherry	155	52	89	30	57	58
Cheyenne	41	40	28	26	68	65
Dismal	51	52	22	19	43	37
Garden	80	37	49	30	61	81
North Sioux	<u>510</u>	<u>281</u>	<u>407</u>	<u>249</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>89</u>
TOTALS	1208	826	902	645	75	78

Turkey

Turkey populations remain high, particularly in the Verdigre and Niobrara units. Spring harvest was 2365 birds while the fall harvest was 2839.

Archery permit sales were 1173 for the spring season and 604 for the fall. Harvest was 163 gobblers in the spring and 118 birds in the fall.

Table 4. Spring Turkey, Harvest and Success for 1985 and 1986.

Management Unit	Permits		Harvest		Success	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
Central	100	101	47	67	47	66
Niobrara Early	1007	1019	467	434	46	43
Niobrara Late	891	908	307	305	34	34
Ponca	154	153	49	46	32	30
Round Top	1927	1801	513	411	27	23
Southeast	121	239	55	112	45	47
Southwest	315	312	82	118	26	38
Verdigre Early	808	815	427	413	53	51
Verdigre Late	801	804	301	418	38	52
Wildcat	106	106	39	41	37	39
TOTALS	6230	6258	2287	2365	37	38

Table 5. Fall Turkey, Harvest and Success for 1985 and 1986.

Management Unit	Permits		Harvest		Success	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
Central	98	100	57	57	58	57
Niobrara Early	932	1012	536	616	58	61
Niobrara Late	801	853	417	486	52	57
Round Top	1682	1424	811	578	48	41
Southwest	205	228	99	110	48	48
Verdigre Early	810	815	521	510	64	63
Verdigre Late	804	806	436	455	54	56
Wildcat	61	81	31	27	51	33
TOTALS	5393	5319	2908	2839	54	53

Upland Game

Table 6 shows the upland game seasons for 1986.

Table 6. 1986 Upland Game Seasons.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Opened</u>	<u>Closed</u>	<u>Daily Bag</u>	<u>Possession</u>
Cottontail Rabbit	Sept. 1	Feb. 28	7	21
Squirrel	Aug. 1	Jan 31	7	21
Grouse	Sept. 21	Nov. 30	3	9
Pheasant	Nov. 1	Jan. 18	3	9
Quail	Nov. 1	Jan. 18	6	18
Hungarian partridge	Nov. 1	Jan. 18	3	9

Pheasant - The summer rural mail carrier survey indicated a 11 percent increase in the statewide pheasant population. The season was increased 4 days from 1985, closing January 18. Preliminary figures indicate about 461,000 pheasants were harvested in 1986.

Quail - Summer surveys indicated a 53 percent increase in the quail population. The season was increased by 4 days and the bag limit changed from 4 to 6 daily (possession from 12 to 18). Preliminary figures indicate a 1986 harvest of 252,000 quail.

Hungarian Partridge - There appears to be little change in the range of this bird at the present time. Harvest figures show a very light harvest of about 5,300 birds, which was more than double the 1985 harvest.

Grouse - Spring breeding ground survey results showed a 4 percent decrease in the grouse breeding population from 1985. Prairie chickens showed a 6 percent increase while sharptails were down 21 percent. The 1986 harvest was about 77,000.

Cottontail Rabbit - Summer surveys indicated no change in rabbit numbers from 1985. Harvest data shows 143,000 rabbits taken in 1986.

Squirrel - Squirrel numbers remain fairly stable. Harvest was 86,000 in 1986.

Furbearers

Table 7 shows the season dates for taking furbearers and bobcats.

Table 7. Furbearer Seasons for 1986-87.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Opens</u>	<u>Closes</u>	<u>Limits</u>
Mink	Nov. 5	Jan. 31	None
Muskrat	Nov. 5	Mar. 15	None
Beaver	Nov. 25	Mar. 15	None
Bobcat	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	None
Raccoon & Opossum	Nov. 5	Jan. 31	None

Early indications point to an increased harvest in part due to good furbearer populations and improved market values. Raccoon, beaver and coyote are expected to receive a significant amount of attention from furharvesters due to anticipated favorable market conditions. Harvest totals and value are expected to reach that of the 1984-85 season when over 250,000 furbearers were harvested having a calculated value of over 3 million dollars.

Migratory Birds

Table 8 shows the seasons for migratory birds for the 1986-87 seasons.

Table 8. Migratory Bird Seasons, 1986-87.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Inclusive Dates</u>	<u>Daily Bag Limits</u>	<u>Possession Limits</u>	<u>Open Area</u>
Duck	Oct. 18 - Oct. 26 Nov. 1 - Dec. 12	100 pt.	2 bags	Low Plains Zones 1 & 2
	Oct. 11 - Nov. 30	100 pt.	2 bags	Low Plains Zones 3 & 4
	Oct. 11 - Nov. 30 Dec. 20 - Jan. 4	100 pt.	2 bags	High Plains
Light Goose	Oct. 4 - Dec. 14 Feb. 2 - Feb. 15	5	10	Statewide
Dark Goose	Oct. 4 - Dec. 21 Oct. 4 - Dec. 14 Oct. 25 - Jan. 4 Nov. 10 - Jan. 4	See Attached Information		North Unit East Unit Central Unit Panhandle
Sandhills Special Canada Season	Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	1 Canada by special permit		See map
Coot	Same as duck	15	30	Statewide
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 30	15	30	Statewide
Snipe	Sept. 1 - Dec. 15	8	16	Statewide
Rail	Sept. 1 - Nov. 9	10	20	Statewide
Woodcock	Sept. 15 - Nov. 18	5	10	Statewide

Waterfowl

Avian cholera again caused losses in the spring migration of ducks and geese in south-central Nebraska. This was one of the lowest years with only 1,338 carcasses of geese and ducks picked up from the Rainwater Basin. During the fall of 1986, 1,303 waterfowl were picked up, most having died from cholera.

A spring breeding pair count was conducted in the sandhills to determine the status of Canada geese. The count was made April 15-16, 1986. Results indicate 301 pairs of geese and eight pairs of swans.

Preliminary figures indicate a duck harvest of about 220,000 and a goose harvest of about 63,000 in 1986.

Duck production in the sandhills was down slightly from 1985 and good production in the east off-set poor conditions in the west. No banding of wild waterfowl was scheduled in 1986.

Production of Canada geese at Sac, and 100 goslings acquired from Colorado resulted in release of 582 goslings in the North Platte Valley in Garden County.

Mourning Dove

The coo count survey indicated an 11 percent decline from the 1985 dove breeding population. The hunting season was 60 days with bag limits of 12 daily and 30 in possession. The harvest survey indicated a harvest of 546,000 in 1986.

Game Farm

Pheasants

The game farm at Sacramento-Wilcox WMA produced 4,575 pheasant chicks. Of these, 4,315 were released at eight weeks of age on state areas in eastern Nebraska. Cooperators (310) received 35,000 day old pheasant chicks. These birds were raised to eight weeks of age and released.

Permits

The number of pet permits increased from 604 in 1985 to 671 in 1986. Commercial game farm permits increased from 235 in 1985 to 254 in 1986.

Shooting Preserves

There were 17 controlled shooting preserves licensed in 1986 compared to nine in 1985.

Salvage Permits

There were 1,184 salvage permits issued for deer and one for antelope that were killed by vehicles in 1986 compared to 1,078 in 1985. Two permits were issued for turkeys.

